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Oil slick at legislature confronts 'crude' government

Defenders of the environment say green movement more important than ever

by David Ball

A new kind of oil slick faced the provincial government in downtown Victoria recently.

On Jan. 12 an alliance of more than 300 environmental activists spilled on to the Legislature lawns and down Government Street wearing black to symbolize the risk of an oil spill. The provincial government is considering an end to the moratorium on offshore drilling and many feel the risks of environmental disasters, such as oil spills, outweigh potential economic gains of lifting the ban.

Environmentalists formed a broad alliance with First Nations, students and commercial fishers to oppose oil exploration off B.C.'s coast.

Representatives from the local environmental movement said green issues are more important than ever.

"Lately people really care," said Sarah Pugh, campaign coordinator for the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, who spoke at the rally. "There are so many issues right now with the [new Liberal] government. The environmental movement is going to be just as strong."

The protest was organized by the Oil Free Coast Alliance, a coalition of over 70 environmental, labour and First Nations groups who want to stop the BC Liberals from lifting a 30-year moratorium on offshore oil exploration.

"The people don't want any lifting of the moratorium," said Adriane Carr, leader of the BC Green Party. "It's absolutely the wrong way to go for this province. Any threat is too big a threat. We don't want to risk an oil slick."

A ban on oil exploration and development off the coast of B.C. has been in effect since 1972, when the federal government passed a moratorium, and then 1981, when the provincial government imposed a similar ban. This year, the B.C. government appointed a panel to consider lifting the moratorium. Many groups fear the effects of oil exploration on their environment and livelihoods.

Arnie Narcisse, chair of the B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Commission, is concerned that opening up the coast for oil development would ruin the ecosystems that support wild salmon stocks, which his people depend upon. Even before drilling begins, the equipment used for seismic testing is known to explode the air sacs of fish and disrupt whale and salmon migration.

"There is a gold rush mentality that emanates from this government," said Narcisse, whose organization represents the fishing rights of First Nations in B.C. "They think you can come in and do what you want to the forests and seas, and then just leave. It's economics before the environment." He said that the government must deal with the First Nations before making concessions to oil companies.

However, not everyone is opposed the offshore oil exploration. David McGuigan, head of the North Coast Oil and Gas Task Force, believes offshore oil development will bring much-needed economic benefits to the coast of B.C.

"I'd like to see people on the north coast employed," he said in an earlier interview. "Everybody's interested in prosperity for their family and prosperity for the future. There's a huge potential for revenue, job creation and economic development."

The proposed oil exploration would occur in Queen Charlotte Sound, Hecate Strait and Dixon Entrance, which biologists say are some of the most biologically productive marine ecosystems on the planet.

Several First Nations, including the Haida and Tsimshian Nations, oppose offshore oil exploration. Lisa Bland, founder and director of the Sierra Club Haida Gwaii, is confident that oil exploration will not go ahead, regardless of government policy.

"The Haida people have spoken on this issue," she said. "The people of Haida Gwaii will not let this happen. It's not a question of whether they're going to listen to us or not. It just won't happen. I know they are going to stop it."

with files from Tim Shuff

photo by Jeffrey Bosdet

Local activists hit the streets to voice their opposition to offshore oil drilling off B.C.'s coast.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

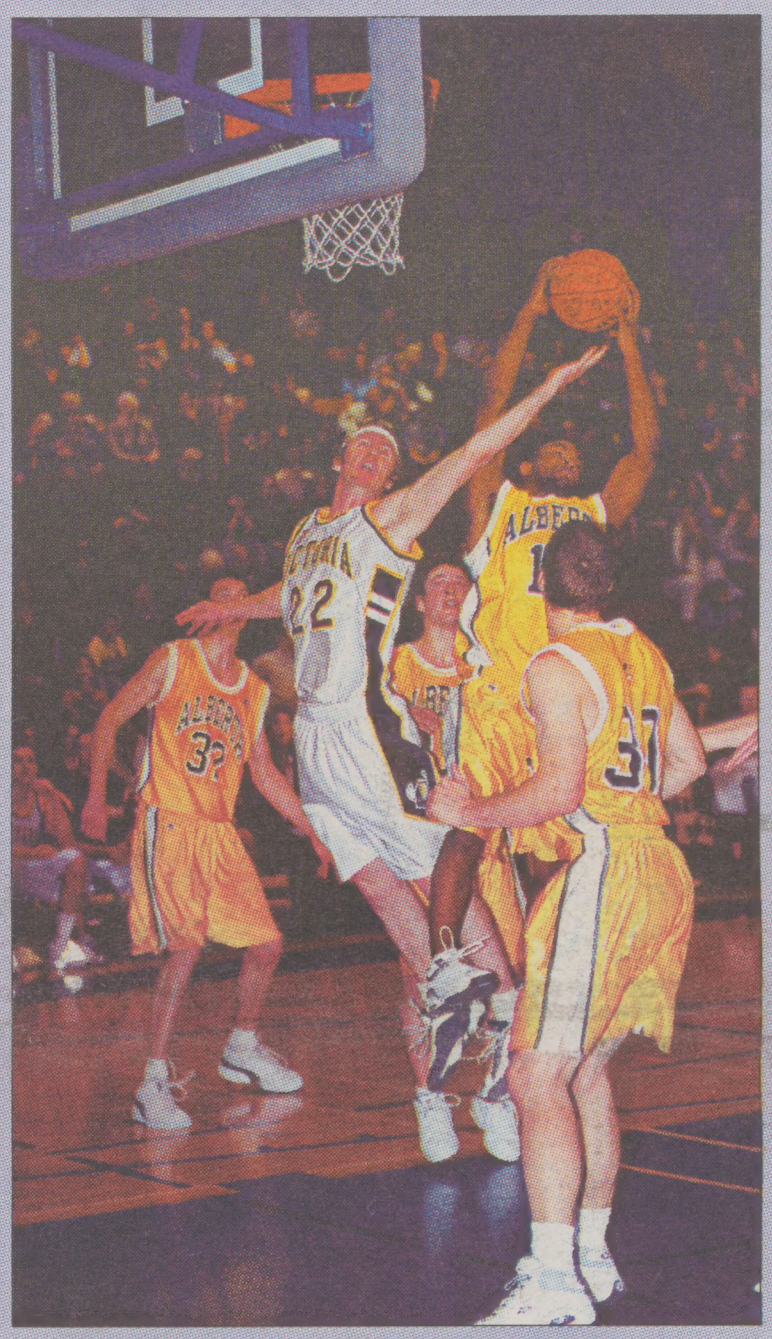

photo by Graham Winterbottom

The top-ranked Alberta Golden Bears defeated an injury-plagued Vikes men's basketball squad by a score of 82-71 on Friday night. Here, Alberta guard Stephen Parker (with ball) out-rebounds UVic's Keith Bustard (#22) in game action at McKinnon Gym. Bustard led UVic with 24 points, but it wasn't enough as Alberta took advantage of the Vikes lack of size, cleaning up on the boards and scoring easily in the paint. Saturday's game saw much of the same as Alberta rubbed some more salt in the wound, winning 81-65. The losses leave UVic with a 6-6 record in conference play and looking for two wins against UBC at McKinnon Gym this weekend. For results and game stories from the women's games see page 16.

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Campus organizations critique war

by Ben Hadaway

From peacekeepers to combat soldiers, the switch in the mandate of Canada's armed forces is receiving mixed reaction from local organizations.

Predictably, some campus leaders support Canada's decision to deploy 750 soldiers in a Canadian Forces combat group to eliminate remaining Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters in southern Afghanistan. They argue Canada must take an active and offensive role in the war. Still, others are opposed.

"Peacekeeping doesn't work," said David Zimmerman, professor of Military and Naval History at UVic. "That was proved in Bosnia. Only the direct application of military force brings order."

Zimmerman agrees that Canada has a duty to assist the American-led effort in Afghanistan.

"Canada has an absolute obligation," said Zimmerman. "As a member of NATO, the UN, and other treaties."

With the recent deployment, Canada becomes the fourth largest coalition partner. Canada currently has three frigates, one supply ship and one destroyer stationed in the Arabian Sea, as well as about 40 members of the Joint Task Force II unit conducting covert operations in Afghanistan.

A small reconnaissance party of approximately 20 men already landed in the region in advance of the 750-member combat group scheduled to arrive in February.

Zimmerman's sentiments are echoed by Lisa Karoway, president of the UVic College Republicans and the UVic Canadian Alliance.

"I am glad to see Canada playing its part in this honourable global effort to combat terrorism," she said. "As North Americans it is our duty to stand for justice."

"As allies and as a civilized country we have a duty to assist America. We have ties with the U.S. on a personal level and an attack on the U.S. is like an attack on Canada."

Still, some local organizations are opposed to Canada's decision to send the combat group.

Stacy Chappel, executive director of the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group, said that Canada's decision to send soldiers will contribute to the cycle of violence that already exists.

"I'm not happy to see Canada send ground troops," she said. "Canada is a major arms dealer to the world and should stop sending arms to developing countries to break the cycle of violence rather than send soldiers to fight in Afghanistan," said Chappel.

"This war is not about September 11," said Chappel. "America is doing it to be seen as big and strong and feeding off the fears September 11 bred. Canada follows almost exclusively on the coattails of the U.S."

Valerie Lannon of the International Socialists said her organization is also opposed to the deployment.

"It's really a very dangerous step for anybody," said Lannon. "Afghanistan has been the site of external intervention for a long time. Now you've got a situation where the U.S. and the Brits went in aggressively behind an anti-terror veneer."

She said the Canadian state is now trying to build up a presence.

Critics, including the Auditor General of Canada, have recently blasted the Liberal government for allowing the Canadian Forces to deteriorate to the point where they may not even be capable of sustaining a major force in Afghanistan.

"Helicopters are key in a mountainous region," said Zimmerman. "Canada is not badly equipped, but the main handicap is the lack of heavy lift capacity as Canada currently only has light helicopters."

The deployment of troops for offensive purposes marks a major shift from the peacekeeping role that Canada has sometimes played in the past.

BALLROOM DANCING

photo by Graham Winterbottom

UVic Ballroom Dancing club members Mandy Pearce and Dave Henderson shake their talented booties in an effort to entice new members at Clubs and Course Unions' day in the SUB Jan. 14.

Gas pipeline review process streamlined

by Anna King, Environment Bureau

VANCOUVER (CUP) – Plans for the $3-billion Mackenzie Valley pipeline that would carry natural gas from the Arctic to Alberta got a boost last week.

Last Monday the Mackenzie Delta Producers Group and a corporation representing six aboriginal groups announced their intent to begin preparing regulatory applications for what would be the North's first major natural gas development project.

The announcement came just minutes after the National Energy Board and 12 other government agencies released a plan to coordinate their response to an application and streamline the environmental review process that would go along with it.

It's the second point that has environmental groups fuming.

Kevin O' Reilly, director of research for the Canadian Arctic Resources Committee (CARC) says the Draft Cooperation Plan shows the agencies' intention to work alongside the oil and gas industry at the expense of a rigorous environmental review and sufficient public input.

"[The Draft Cooperation Plan] was worked on behind closed doors, and isn't likely to change now," O'Reilly said. "This will be one of the largest construction projects ever undertaken in North America and there are serious environmental concerns the public has to know about."

The pipeline would pass through a number of regions and, previously, would have needed to obtain more than 300 permits.

The Draft Cooperation Plan provides for a much-simplified process, including an environmental impact assessment done by a single joint panel and coordinated public hearings.

The pipeline would carry between 800 million to 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day from three major gas fields in the Mackenzie Delta to existing pipelines in northern Alberta, and from there to southern U.S. markets.

The Producers Group, comprised of Imperial Oil Resources, Conoco Canada, Shell Canada and ExxonMobil Canada, says it will be doing everything it can to minimize the environmental footprint caused by the pipeline and denies allegations that the proposal leaves little room for public input.

"That is categorically untrue," said Hart Searle, spokesperson for the Producers Group. "As you collect information on environmental assessment and socio-economic issues . . . and get research permits from regulatory boards, you have to talk to people," he said.

The National Energy Board (NEB), which is ultimately responsible for approving the project, makes similar claims.

"We have two environmental experts travelling up and down the valley meeting with agencies and groups," said Ross Hicks, a NEB spokesperson. "Between now and when the public consultation process would happen, we hope to develop a way to get into remote communities – for example by Webcast – to make sure people have a say."

But O'Reilly is less optimistic. He points to the lack of certain intervener funding, which would provide financial support for people to come to public hearings, as a crucial deficiency in the Cooperation Plan.

And the cumulative effects of seismic testing, road construction and activity needed to keep the pipeline filled on the fragile Arctic ecosystem are reasons the process should go slowly, if at all, says O'Reilly.

"This is the same sort of thing that has transformed the face of Alberta."

Northern development should wait until after protected areas have been set aside, said Alison Woodley, northern campaigner for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

"The Arctic is one of the last great ecosystems of the world and as of yet there are no protected areas. We won't have a second chance to protect it once massive development starts," she said.

The public has until March 8, 2002, to comment on the Draft Cooperation Plan.

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Swipe card to replace bus pass soon, U-Pass by fall

by Shana Heiser

Frequent BC Transit passengers must soon adapt to using magnetic strip swipe cards, which will replace easily-duplicated paper bus passes.

Sources at UVic said the U-Pass will likely convert to this new technology before next fall term begins.

"Anything we can do to cooperate with transit's ambitions for greater control and fidelity will help preserve the UPass," said David Clode, the executive director of student and ancillary services.

The new fare boxes, which were installed early last year, cost about $1.2 million over 10 years, according to Chris Foord, marketing manager for BC Transit.

"The real cost of having the box on that bus is between two and three dollars a day," he said. "We kept our old system limping along probably five years longer than most places could have by minimizing the people using cash."

Foord added that Victoria does not have an epidemic of people photocopying bus passes, but BC Transit would still like to stay one step ahead.

Still, switching to the magnetic strip technology is not cheap, Clode said, so UVic is studying other services that could benefit from the swipe cards, such as use of athletic facilities on campus.

"We have to link up our student database with a code number that we're going to put on the pass," Clode said. "None of that's free."

Discussion between the university and BC Transit is taking place in an attempt to simplify the system for the 17,000 students who receive the U-Pass.

"I would love nothing more than to say next year's first year student has a student card that would be validated for U-Pass use for the next four or five years," Foord said.

He added that Victoria's bus system is on the trailing edge of what the industry is using. In comparison to other cities, it's almost disappearing technology.

"We didn't jump into the electronic program, we're wading into it," Foord said. "We're dealing with something that's honestly been around for over 20 years. If you want a full blown system, similar to what Vancouver has, it's $20,000 a bus."

In less than two weeks, all monthly bus pass users will convert to swipe cards. By the time UVic students receive their new student cards with the magnetic strips, BC Transit hopes the process will be commonplace.

"My sense is that it could be problematic, but I don't know," Clode said. "It's going to be a matter of trying it out to see."

But bus drivers find the new technology unnecessary, especially with BC Transit's tight budget of $1 million a year. Recent service cuts have also brought the technology's practicality into question, said Sal Ruffolo, president of Canadian Auto Workers.

"The money should have gone to more service, especially in the UVic area where we have the biggest problems," he said. "We're passing up a lot of passengers at bus stops, because we're too full."

Victoria city councilor Rob Fleming added that although students shouldn't notice much of a change in riding the bus, they may have other concerns.

"Students' main interest in transit is that it ought to invest in putting buses on the road," Fleming said. "That requires funding, so everybody is watching the provincial budget."

Fleming believes replacing the old machines on each bus will not only catch fake passes – it will give transit a better idea of who rides the bus when.

"They want to have a database on ridership," Fleming said. "What are the peak hours and peak routes. Right now they just send the odd person to do manual counts."

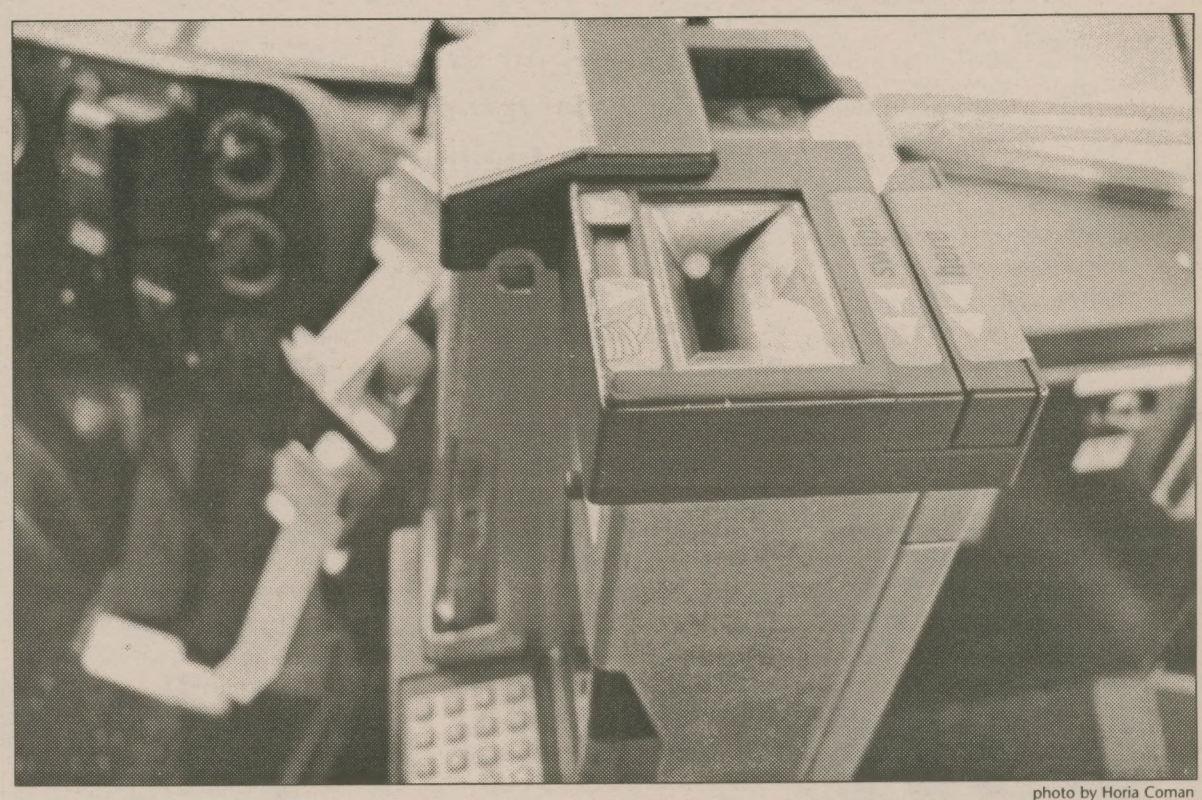


photo by Horia Coman

Say goodbye to the archaic change counters. BC Transit said they will update their technology in the next few months.

Student digs in for legal stand as UVic calendar saga continues

by Sarah Glen

Jordan Clarke will not remove the university's name from his unauthorized web site.

The second-year social science student made it clear Jan. 11 that he will not change the address of his web site www.uvicgirls.com even though it is in direct violation of UVic's trademark.

"I haven't done anything wrong. They [the university] have no control over me," said Clarke.

Clarke uses the web site to sell his self-produced calendar, which features university girls in bikinis posed around campus and the city of Victoria.

Neither the student's web site nor his calendar are registered to use UVic's name and both are in direct violation of the university's trademark policy.

University Information Officer Patty Pitts along with Mary Anne Waldron, the associate vice president of legal affairs, have met several times with Clarke since December after he first started selling the calendar during exam time in the Student Union Building (SUB).

When a business uses the UVic name to sell merchandise without prior permission, it is asked to destroy the products or somehow cover them up with a different name or logo.

Clarke changed the name of the calendar from UVic Girls to Girls of Victoria and promised he would change the web site as well, said Pitts in an earlier interview.

Now, Clarke is "taking a stand" and will not change the site.

He said the site is registered in the United States and uses the moniker, uvicgirls as a single word so it does not infringe on UVic's trademark.

The trademark covers the use of the UVic name.

Waldron is surprised at Clarke's shift and said he did not tell the university he would not change the web site.

"We've tried to be cooperative, but if he chooses to end this cooperation, I guess we'll have to take it to another level," she said.

If Clarke's web site is found to be an infraction of the university's trademark, the university could sue both Clarke and his company Campus Calendars.

Waldron emphasizes, however, that the university will not step-up legal action until Clarke informs it of his new decision to keep the web site address the same.

"We didn't find out about this until now," she said. "I can't really make any decisions about this until we get more information."

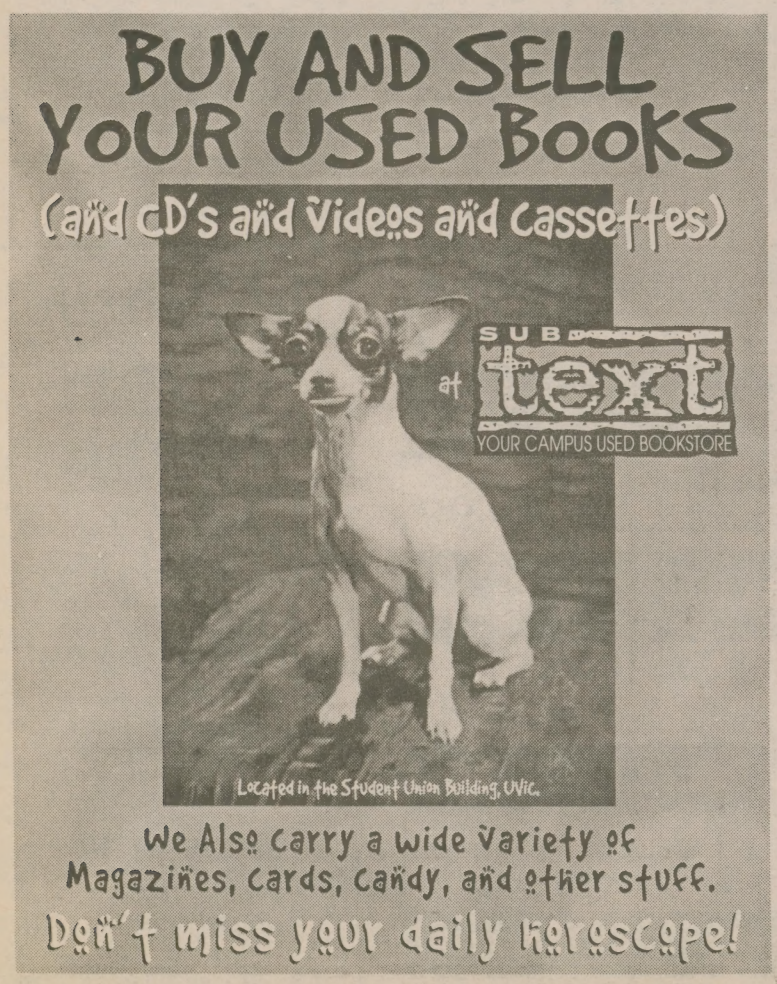
Clarke will leave Canada to take part in an international exchange in Australia at the end of January.

He is planning to be there for two years and will produce a similar calendar there as well.

"This company is just beginning. It will be a huge media mogul," said Clarke.

Clarke has already made a profit from the sale of the campus-based calendar, selling 650 calendars.

The majority of his customers are men, he said.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Local Indymedia sites still growing despite minor growing pains

by John Thompson

The Victoria Independent Media Centre (IMC) experienced temporary technical difficulties over the holidays.

Over the Christmas break both the Victoria and Vancouver IMC websites were offline for several weeks.

Deja Frenette, a Victoria Indymedia volunteer, said both sites run off the same server, which was changing its internet service provider at the time. The global indymedia site has also had trouble with its hard drives running out of space.

> Without a right to be heard, a society cannot make informed choices that take into account the interest of all beings.
> *Andre Vallillee, UVic Indymedia club member*

The Victoria IMC joined the global effort to provide an alternative to mainstream news coverage after the WTO protests in Seattle.

There are now over 50 IMCs around the world and the network is growing rapidly.

Frenette said the Victoria IMC receives between 300 to 400 visits daily, despite the site's inability to accurately tally visits. He added the global network experienced an influx of visitors after Sept. 11, when the number of visits roughly doubled.

There has also been some dispute over how to handle controversial posts to the Victoria IMC newswire, Frenette said.

"We've received some criticism for some of the posts made to the site," Frenette said, citing times when inflammatory posts were made, offending some volunteers.

Frenette said deliberately posting offensive or untrue stories is called "trolling," and separating the truth from the fiction can be a challenge.

"There were disagreements within the group and the community over the definition of open publishing," he said.

Some argued the site should be a "safe-zone" for activists, screened for posts deemed politically insensitive.

"We decided that the IMC wasn't a safe zone for the activists. It's the front lines," he said. "It's a place designed for dialogue, and dialogue often leads towards conflict."

But posts are still hidden if deemed inappropriate by the editorial collective, although nothing is permanently removed.

"We don't take anything completely off the site. We can hide it, so that people have to go to a different section of the site to find it," Frenette said.

Despite the pitfalls of open publishing, Frenette said it's not the collective's role to steer the direction of the opinions on the site.

"In an ideal world, we're just facilitators. We're just creating a forum for people to communicate," he said. "In a large sense it's up to the public, and the people who use our website, to decide which way is forward."

He also hopes more people will post their own stories on the site, rather than reposting mainstream reports of America's war against terrorism.

"That's the difference between indy news and normal news," he said.

On campus the Indymedia club plans to expand this term. Club members are working on a print publication, a radio show on CFUV and plans to hold a regular movie night.

"Considering it's a new club, I think its doing incredibly well," said volunteer Andre Vallillee, who believes the concentration of media ownership in Canada limits the number of voices we hear in the news.

"Without a right to be heard, a society cannot make informed choices that take into account the interest of all beings. Without a right to be heard, a few powerful individuals can dominate discourse and policy-making," he said.

Local representatives from the Indymedia collective will join media activists from around the Pacific Northwest this weekend in Vancouver, during a conference being held to promote local self-governance and community development.

They also plan to hold a series of workshops from Jan.24 to 27 during the Indymedia convergence.

SUB food prices go up

by Kelsey Dundon

Starting this term, students will pay more for food from businesses in the Student Union Building.

Felicitas, the International Grill and the Health Food Bar adjusted their prices to reflect the rising cost of supplies.

"It was an ongoing operational decision," said UVSS business operations manager Jim Gibson. "It had nothing to do with what happened in the rest of the building."

Gibson added that the price jumps weren't massive. The biggest rise was 75 cents, but that was on a salad that used to cost $3.75.

The increased prices do not reflect an increased profit for the businesses, however. The profit earned is approximately three per cent, considerably lower than the ten per cent most restaurants aim for.

According to Brad Mielke, food services manager, profits go directly into the UVSS.

"I don't get a bonus if we make a bigger profit. It all goes right back to the students," he said.

Mielke mentioned prices could have been kept lower if the quality of food were to be sacrificed.

"If students wanted a three dollar burger we could supply it. But you'd get what you paid for," he said.

All these changes occurred a few days before classes ended in December. The International Grill and The Health Food Bar in the SUB raised their listed prices. Bean There coffee bar's prices remained untouched.

photo by Melissa Cook

"We try not to raise the cost of food in the middle of the term, raising them at all is the last thing we want to do," said Mielke.

Felicitas's newly formatted menu was effective as of Jan 7. Last term the most expensive item on their menu cost $7.00. But now many of them were raised by 50 cents.

Some items, however, including nachos, are cheaper now than they were in 1995, Mielke said.

He mentioned that when comparing the cost of food it is important to note that GST is included in menu prices. So when most people step back they realize they still are getting a good deal, he added.

Because of a new, more efficient, way of recording the movement of the supplies, Mielke hopes these food prices will remain stable for the next few years.

Morning-after pill still available

by Chloe Bennett

The rumour that the morning-after pill will no longer be available without a *prescription is false.*

"No doctor's prescription is needed to get ECP (Emergency Contraceptive Pill), and I have not heard of plans to change that," said Ian Lloyd, representative for the College of Pharmacists and a pharmacist at People's Pharmacy in Cadboro Bay.

Not every pharmacist can sell the drug because there is a mandatory training course. Some pharmacists may not sign up for the course on moral grounds but they must refer the customer to someone who has.

Lloyd said he only sells the morning-after pill about once a month, but that is only because of the pharmacy's remote location.

The morning-after pill is a high dosage of the birth control pill. There are two different types of ECPs: combined ECP, which is a combination of the artificial steroids progestin and estrogen, and the progestin-only type.

Both prevent the fertilized egg from attaching itself to the uterine lining. ECP will not terminate an already existing pregnancy.

Pregnancy does not begin directly after unprotected sex, but the morning-after pill should be taken no longer than 72 hours after. There is a six-day period after the egg has been fertilized during which it attaches itself to the lining of the uterus. Even so, effective prevention can only occur within the first three days.

"ECP is 90 per cent effective if taken right away," said Lloyd. "So it's better to take it sooner than later."

Temporary side effects include, nausea, vomiting, breast tenderness, weight gain or loss and depression.

"I was violently ill all night after I took it but I'd rather be sick than pregnant," said one woman who took the morning-after pill and spoke to *the Martlet* under the condition of anonymity.

She also said that it should be used in emergency cases only and recommends taking birth control pills instead.

If the government decided to enforce a prescription to get ECP, it would only push girls, especially younger ones away, she said.

"It's a scary enough situation as it is for young girls, without having to go to their family doctor to get it."

Taking the morning-after pill increases the risk for serious side effects such as blood clots, heart attacks and strokes, but these are rare. These risks increase for people who smoke.

Prices for the morning-after pill vary, but are approximately $35 over-the-counter and between $0-5 at a clinic.

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Local paper could be contraband

by John Thompson

With mysterious winks and nods, contraband is passed to customers from behind the counters of SUBText.

Well, maybe not. But the SUB bookstore has been stocking itself with copies of *Monday Magazine*, Victoria's alternative weekly newspaper. Free off-campus publications aren't allowed to be distributed on campus, unless authorized by the university administration.

Juliet Rice, a manager at SUBText, said the bookstore keeps a stack of *Mondays* behind the counter, but they don't publicize its existence in any way "It's competition with the Martlet," she said. "We only keep it here for anybody who asks for it."

> Don Iveson, president of the Canadian University Press, said the clandestine distribution of *Monday* sounded "pretty shady."

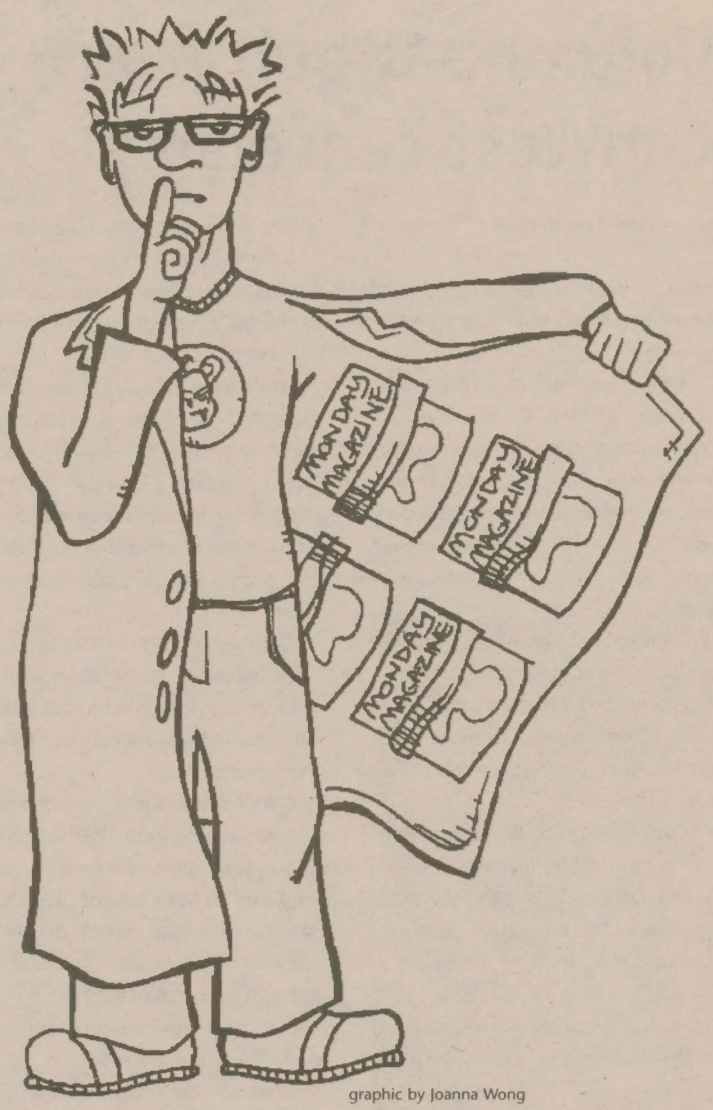
Sarah Webb, director of academics, said the SUB follows university policy for the distribution of free publications, but she was unsure whether it was being enforced.

According to Patti Pitts, the UVic communications officer, *Monday's* distribution on campus is legitimate, provided it's done through designated channels, like the blue box by the University Centre. She said that off-campus publications are granted distribution rights if they're "determined to be of community interest."

However, she said she thought that publications in the SUB were under the jurisdiction of the student society.

Don Iveson, president of the Canadian University Press (CUP), said SUBText's clandestine distribution of *Monday* sounded "pretty shady," but was unsure whether it warranted much concern.

In Ontario, large newspapers such as the *Toronto Star* have flooded university campuses with free papers to increase their readership advertising sales. The *National Post* routinely dumps stacks of free papers on campuses, including UVic. This has irked CUP, which represents 70 student newspapers across Canada. Iveson said his organization worries that big papers are poaching the readership and advertiser pool of student newspapers, which are typically run by volunteers on a shoestring budget.



graphic by Joanna Wong

Whether *Monday's* presence at UVic is any concern depends on whether advertisers decide to pull their spots from the *Martlet* in favour of *Monday*, he said.

Queen's students take over president's office

by David Leibl

KINGSTON (CUP) Five Queen's University students are occupying the office of the university president to protest a Queen's proposal to deregulate undergraduate tuition fees.

The students locked themselves inside an administrative area outside the office of President William Leggett Monday morning and were still inside as of press time late Tuesday afternoon.

> The university has proposed raising tuition fees by 10 per cent each year over the next four years to approximately $5,900.

The students say they are upset that Queen's has applied to the Ontario government to be a test case for the deregulation of tuition fees in arts and science.

Deregulation would allow the university to raise tuition fees far above limits set by the government, a move Queen's says is necessary to remain a top-calibre institution. The university has proposed raising tuition fees by 10 per cent each year over the next four years to approximately $5,900.

The students who have locked themselves in Leggett's office say the cost of a university education is already too expensive and fear deregulation would mean lofty tuition fee increases that would put Queen's out of reach for all but the wealthiest students.

Robin Hartley, a political science student taking part in the occupation, says students at Queen's have repeatedly told university administrators that they are opposed to deregulation but have received little response. In a referendum last year, 92 per cent of undergraduate students voted to oppose tuition fee deregulation.

"We've done the referendum and petitions but nothing has worked so far," she told Canadian University Press by cell phone from inside Leggett's office. "We're still waiting for a response."

Hartley said the protesters will continue to occupy the office until the university meets a list of demands that includes a tuition freeze in all programs and the withdrawal of its request for tuition fee deregulation.

The students may be in the office for some time.

Leggett said he's not about to concede to any demands but added he has no plans to ask the students to leave. Although power to the office has been cut, Leggett said the students have a right to express their beliefs, even if that means locking themselves inside his office.

"This is a place of open debate. We're going to do nothing to hinder this. We understand from time to time that they need a pulpit to do this from."

Leggett dismissed allegations that the university has refused to discuss the issue of deregulation with students. He said the faculty of arts and sciences has been discussing deregulation for over a year and has actively sought student input.

He also said concerns that deregulation would make education at Queen's too expensive for some students have been addressed.

In its proposal to the provincial government, Queen's said it would commit to dedicating 30 per cent of any increased tuition from currently regulated programs to financial assistance for students. The university has pledged that under deregulation it would match those funds with an equal amount of money received from private donations.

Joel Duff, the Ontario chair of the Canadian Federation of Students, said that even with plans to provide financial support to some students, deregulated tuition could quickly become too costly even for students from middle-income families.

Tuition fees in already deregulated programs like medicine, commerce and dental hygiene are soaring, he said, sometimes by thousands of dollars over a span of just two or three years.

Duff said his organization is supporting the protesting students. About 100 Queen's students rallied outside Leggett's office on Monday to show support for the five students inside.

U.V.S.S. & G.S.S. Members

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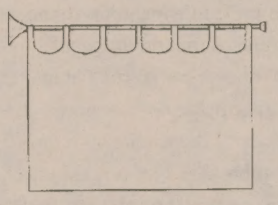

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A nomination paper is not valid unless it is received in Room 410, Business & Economics Building, University of Victoria, not later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, 06 February 2002.

Dated this 17th day of January, 2002,
Office of the University Secretary

Sheila Sheldon Collyer,
University Secretary

Columnists quit over CanWest censorship

by Jennifer Henderson

HALIFAX (CUP) – Stephen Kimber has penned his final column for The Daily News.

Kimber, the director of journalism at the university of King's College, resigned from the Halifax newspaper after management refused to run a column he had written criticizing the editorial policy of the paper's owners, CanWest Global Communications Corp.

"This last column was really about the problem of censorship in the Aspers' empire. I had come to the point where I wanted to make some sort of stand and confront them head on," said Kimber.

CanWest, run by Winnipeg's Asper family, controls 15 major daily newspapers, including the National Post, and 126 community papers in Canada. The company also owns Global Television.

Kimber says that although he didn't intend his column to be a "kamikaze mission" he assumed it would not be published.

"I really did have a pretty good sense this is what would happen. The next step would be to resign in a public way and to bring attention to the issue," he said.

An edited version of his column was later run in The Globe and Mail.

Kimber had been writing a weekly column in The Daily News for 15 years but says he began to notice a new editorial direction in the last few months. A portion of a column he wrote on Israeli-Palestinian relations was censored, as were parts of a column on terrorism and another on the National Post coverage of Global's new nightly newscast.

In response, Kimber began exercising more caution in his writing.

"I began writing columns longer than usual. That way, if part was censored I could still save the column. I was not writing columns about certain subjects, knowing they'd be censored. In fact I was using self-censorship."

The Daily News did not immediately return calls, but the paper previously confirmed that Kimber's resignation was due to issues surrounding editorial policy.

Kimber is not the only Daily News columnist to quit over censorship. Stephanie Domet, a columnist in the Sunday Daily News, resigned a few days later, after writing a column in support of Kimber.

Aside from an incident in which more than 50 Montreal Gazette reporters removed their bylines from stories as a form of protest, Kimber and Domet are among only a few employees of CanWest-controlled newspapers speaking out about censorship.

Both agree they're lucky to have other full-time jobs to fall back on, but concede that other journalists with similar outlooks may not have that luxury.

"Right across the country there is concern among journalists at the papers the Aspers own [and] about how they've been treated. But it's hard for people to express this. Really, there aren't other alternatives for them to go to," said Kimber.

Although Domet did not run up against editorial restrictions in her column, she believes that public knowledge of CanWest Global's policy will eventually cause readers to question what they read in Asper-owned newspapers.

"Once you drive the thin edge of the wedge in, the reader begins to suspect everything. If a reader knows they're not getting the full story on Israel they begin to question other stories," she said.

Former journalist and Mount Saint Vincent University public relations professor Trudie Richards agrees. But she believes that coverage of CanWest censorship may ultimately help to educate readers about the workings of the media.

"If there was ever any doubt before, it's now crystal clear that journalism is a business fundamentally about serving the bottom line. As the number of media owners decreases, the responsibility of citizens to become media literate and to be skeptical of what they read increases," she said.

While neither former columnist was prepared to say what lasting impact media coverage of CanWest's editorial policy will have, Richards believes the controversy and the questions it raises will continue.

"This isn't the first step and it won't be the last," she said.

Journalism school heads worried by CanWest editorial policies

by Phillip Todd

MONTREAL (CUP) – The directors of Canada's two largest journalism schools say they are troubled by the direction Canadian media empire CanWest Global is leading the country's largest newspaper chain.

Chris Dornan, program director at the Carleton School of Journalism, and Vince Carlin, journalism program director at Ryerson University, both expressed worry over the new editorial policy CanWest, headed by Winnipeg's Asper family, has imposed on the 14 major Canadian newspapers in the Southam chain it purchased last summer.

> This country can't afford the decline of a newspaper chain that is in every major city in the country.
>
> *Vince Carlin*

Under the new editorial policy, Southam papers must now publish up to three "national editorials" penned at the company's Winnipeg head office. Regional editorial writers and editors are not permitted to contradict opinions conveyed in the national editorials.

In criticizing CanWest's policies, Carlin and Dornan are contributing to a debate that has been absent from CanWest-owned media. The company has forbidden public debate of the issue in the newspapers it controls.

"They are dicing here with the very credibility of their newspapers," said Dornan.

"The coin of a newspaper is a sort of contract between itself and the readership that says we are going to give you, the reader, an interesting and varied discussion about the conduct of this country."

Dornan believes the reputation of Southam papers stands to suffer if CanWest refuses to amend its editorial policies.

"If the Southam papers become tarred by the perception on the part of the readers that they are simply the mouthpiece for the idiosyncratic political beliefs of the owners, then their standing and their value is going to be diminished in the eyes of their readers," Dornan said. According to Carlin, a reputable Southam newspaper chain is vital for the healthy functioning of freedom of the press in Canada.

"I would hope that these are a few early missteps in the revitalization of Southam," he said. "This country can't afford the decline of a newspaper chain that is in every major city in the country. The newspaper business is in bad enough shape. We need a healthy Southam."

Carlin questions whether CanWest can produce editorials that are truly nationally relevant.

"Having a national editorial is not in itself something immoral or unethical, but I think a lot of us looked at the first one – a change of tax treatment for family trusts – and said, 'couldn't they have thought of something better and less self-serving.'"

Carlin said the Aspers stand to benefit from such a change to tax laws, as they have one of the largest private foundations in the country.

Dornan said he isn't necessarily opposed to national editorials but expressed concern over the methods with which the ownership has made its views known.

"I think there's a way to express opinions that is less hamfisted than the way they are currently going about doing it," he said, adding there are more palatable alternatives.

"One, use the National Post. Set your national editorial policy using the national newspaper that you already own. Or alternatively, make these editorial pronouncements in addition to the local editorials, not in the place of the local editorials," he said.

Murdoch Davis, Southam's editor-in-chief, had not returned phone calls by press time.

Carlin said the Aspers' background in commercial television could explain some of CanWest's recent behaviour toward its newspapers.

"The basic purpose of commercial television is assembling eyeballs in front of a screen to sell commercials. I think some people are transferring those sorts of instincts and attitudes into the newspaper business, where it's not appropriate," he said.

Dornan said that although some of the Aspers' new policies are of concern, freedom of the press in Canada isn't being trampled.

"One doesn't want to lean on the panic button and say 'yes, freedom of expression is under assault in this country.' Compared to other jurisdictions elsewhere on the globe, this is quite a robust democracy we've got going here."

Carlin said CanWest's actions are not so much an assault on freedom of the press as the company's failure to carry out the mission of a newspaper.

"Sure it's a business and you do everything you can to maximize the profitability of the business, but do it with a sense of public purpose, of responsibility to free-flowing public debate," he said.

U of Manitoba senate approves faculty of environment

by Carla Marie Loewen

WINNIPEG (CUP) – The University of Manitoba senate has approved the merger of several departments and programs to create a new faculty of the environment.

The new faculty, which supporters say would provide greater visibility to environment-related education and research, would fuse the departments of geography and geological sciences, the environmental science program and the Natural Resources Institute (NRI) under the same banner.

David Barber, acting head of geography, said creating the new faculty would better enable the university to focus on issues he says the world's governments are taking greater interest in.

"The university needs to catch up to the fact that governments of the world are focusing on the environment as a primary issue," he said.

U of M administrators say the proposed faculty will also provide the university's environmental programs with the exposure needed to pursue and retain top professors and instructors.

Faculty of arts dean Robert O'Kell expressed concern over what could happen to current faculty members teaching courses on the environment.

"There are some faculty members in the department of geography and in the faculty of arts who do not want to move to the new faculty," he said.

"Unless these people can be persuaded that this is in their best interest, it means that there's going to be a kind of split between those who are interested in studying the environment from a holistic perspective and those who are looking at it in a more specialized way as kind of professional move."

O'Kell said rather than a new faculty, the university should consider creating a school of the environment, which would allow current programs to exist under an "administrative umbrella" without having to surrender their current identity and structure. The matter will now be brought before the university's board of governors for approval.

CORRECTION: *The Martlet* mistakenly attributed the story "It's the most stressful time of year" (54.17) to Heather McCloy.
The story was written by Nadine Trinh.

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Court date set for B.C. activists

by Kevin Groves

British Columbia activists caught in legal limbo since April will soon have their day in court.

UVic math student Morgan Stewart joined the tens of thousands of protesters at the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) summit in Quebec, last spring, and will be one of 463 individuals tried for taking part in protest.

His court date is March 13.

Stewart was one of thousands of protesters arrested when he was detained on April 21. Charges against most people who were arrested were later dropped. Stewart still faces charges.

He is charged with mischief and uttering death threats to a police officer, all of which he denies.

When arrested, Stewart was particpating in a peaceful labour march seven blocks away from the perimeter fence erected around the summit compound. This march was designated for those not wanting to risk arrest.

Stewart said six police officers dragged him into an unmarked van.

He was moved to Orsainville detention centre, six miles out of Quebec city and released several days later after being held without food for nearly 24 hours and without water for 12.

"I don't have any context for my charges other than my guesses," Stewart said. "There has been absolutely no disclosure from the Crown's end, and they haven't given us a timeline as to when we can expect to get the information."

Dave Olsen, owner of Vancouver-based Ethical Environment Consultants, will also be tried.

His court date is May 22.

"I sincerely believe that these trials are a pathetic attempt by the federal government to justify their actions that weekend," he said.

Olsen said he was at the FTAA representing the National Community and Campus Radio Association (NCRA) and had Summit of America media credentials.

He said he was arrested on the second day of the summit after he asked riot police why they were assaulting a man. He was later charged with obstructing police, and "wearing a scarf."

Like Stewart, Olsen was detained at Orsainville, where he said he was assaulted by police officers.

"I was taken to [a] room and asked to sign a form in French without explanation, which I refused," he said. "Later [an officer] slapped me very hard against the back of my head."

As his trial date approaches Olsen said Crown lawyers have been offering money to those arrested at the Summit if they plead guilty to all charges.

"In November they offered us $150 and a guilty plea for an 'unconditional' discharge," Olsen said. "In December, the bribe's cost was increased to $250. Needless to say, the vast majority of people arrested refused to plead guilty to made up charges and make the government look good."

Gerard Ferguson, a professor with UVic's law faculty, said this practice, termed "plea negotiation," is standard procedure in Canada's law courts to avoid an expensive trial.

"When the accused has pled guilty and the Crown has recommended a conditional sentence, 99 per cent of the time the judge will agree with that," Ferguson said.

The Quebec Legal Collective, a group of law students and lawyers representing many protesters arrested in Quebec last April, will represent Stewart and Olsen.

A representative of the collective could not be reached by press time.

To help pay for their defense, Stewart and Olsen have been selling the GASCD, a 2 cd collection of songs offering a political message. Proceeds go to the Quebec Legal Collective.

Stewart said he's raised about $3000 so far with the cd, along with other fundraising.

The FTAA summit was intended to further talks toward expanding a free trade zone around 34 countries of North, Central and South America, and the Caribbean except Cuba.

Leaders plan to have the agreement ratified by 2005.

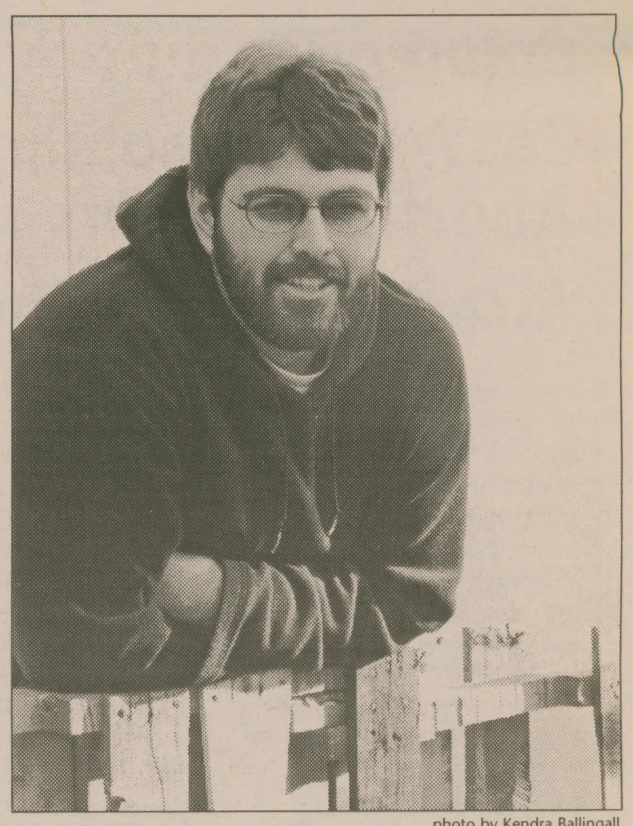

photo by Kendra Ballingall

UVic student Morgan Stewart still faces charges in Quebec. He is raising money for legal and travel costs.

Many protesters at the summit feel the agreement threatens democracy and gives too much power to big business, while jeopardizing the environment and social programs.

Market Square shrinks

by Lorna Mace

A decade ago Market Square was the ultimate location for alternative, locally owned stores and services. Today the morale of the square's shop owners is low and its future bleak.

"Being that I've been a tenant for two years, I don't have a long term overview of the space. However, in that time, whether it be demographics or economy, there has been a lot of businesses coming and going," said Second Hand Rose's owner Roze, who declined to give her last name.

There are numerous vacancies in the historical location and six shops are in the process of leaving or closing down.

"We didn't have any problems until the new [property] owners," said an employee at one of the relocating stores who wished to remain anonymous.

After nine years of residence in the square, this business is amalgamating with its other Victoria store. This employee is losing her job.

"It used to be the heart and soul of Victoria," she said. "Some of [the store owners] are quite nervous. It's really disheartening."

Anterra Retail Properties, a Vancouver-based company, owns the Market Square space.

"Our company is in it for the long haul," said Brenda Bolwyn, the property manager of Market Square. "Our aim is that the retailers succeed."

The attraction of the square relies upon the fact that it has more atmosphere than the typical mall.

"We're a little more unique. We like to keep that mix," said Bolwyn. One of the stores in the square will be leaving at the end of the month and will relocate in the Eaton Centre.

"There's just not the clientele any more. Once it's dark, women don't want to come in the area."

Along with security reasons, the store is also choosing Eaton Centre for the storage options, larger shops and the busy location.

"I wish I could say I'm really going to miss working in the square. But for the amount of clientele the square gets, the rent is too high," said a representative of the store who also wished to remain anonymous.

> Right now it's difficult to have long term goals in Victoria.
>
> *Brenda Bolwyn*

Bolwyn justifies the high rent because of the square's downtown location and its considerable amount of upkeep.

"We do comparisons with the competition," said Bolwyn. "We're pretty comparable."

Many of the shop owners in Market Square believe the location's problems are due to the combination of numerable vacancies and the fact that the square hasn't been hosting as many festivals and attractions, like it did in the past.

"I feel this space should be utilized for local shows, i.e. music, crafts, arts and markets; events that include the local cultures as well as envelope the locals," said Roze.

One store representative suggests the square be modeled after a true market, such as Vancouver's Granville market.

Bolwyn said Victoria's floundering economy is making it difficult for the company to make plans regarding the square.

"Right now it's difficult to have long term goals in Victoria," she said. "Until Market Square recaptures the spirit of alternative shopping, it will continue to lose its appeal for shoppers and store owners."

It's an idea that Roze echoes.

"Over the decades we have refurbished and revitalized our heritage downtown," she said. "It seems a shame that the mass consumers would prefer a chain store, enslaved by sweatshops, that caters to the hierarchy of labels."

Most Ontario college grads find work

By Mark Kennedy

GUELPH (CUP) – The majority of college graduates have little difficulty finding work after they graduate, according to a recent study released by the Ontario government.

The employment report, which surveyed graduates from 24 colleges, indicates that on average 91 per cent of all college graduates find work within six months after graduation – an increase of one per cent over the previous year, the report said.

Colleges were ranked by key performance indicators (KPI) which measured the percentage of graduate job satisfaction, the percentage of employer satisfaction with a graduate and undergraduate student satisfaction with their respective college.

Conestoga College ranked the highest for graduate satisfaction at 85.9 per cent, with Georgian, Humber and St. Lawrence colleges close behind. Correspondingly, Boreal and Lambton Colleges topped the list for employer satisfaction at 96.2 and 94.2 per cent respectively – only slightly higher than six other colleges.

"By publicizing the profile of college graduates, we are giving students the information they need to make informed choices for the future," said Dianne Cunningham, the minister of training, colleges and universities (MTCU), in a press release.

Statistics used in the study were from the 1999-00 school year. 33,700 college graduates and 7,700 employers were surveyed for the study.

The study also included the average salaries graduates earned upon graduation from a specific college program. The field of dental hygiene topped the list, with 97.6 per cent of all grads in the field earning an average salary of $54,688.

The high averages of the study are misleading, however, considering that the employment statistics included all graduates who found full-time employment after graduation, and not merely those graduates who found work in their field of study.

Asked how many graduates of the 91 per cent average found work in their field of study, Tanya Cholakov, a MTCU spokesperson said: "It's a comprehensive study . . . it's a little bit of both. Approximately 78.9 per cent of graduates found full-time employment that was related or partially related to their field of study."

Cholakov also said the government is committed to measuring the rate of graduate employment relative to a particular college – a factor that influences government funding.

"The government distributes a percentage of the provincial general purpose operating grant to colleges based on each college's performance in relation to the three KPIs. In 2001-02, $16.4 million was allocated [to colleges] based on performance," said Cholakov.

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EDITORIAL

Abortion doctors still face fear every day

To those of us in progressive-thinking bubbles in Victoria and at UVic it may seem like abortion is an accepted phenomenon entrenched in our medical system. But it's far from that simple and, unfortunately, far from an accepted given. Sadly, abortion is still under heavy fire.

Abortion has only been legal and unrestricted in Canada for 14 years. This means that the mothers of most current UVic students didn't have the option of choosing parenthood. These women and their reproductive systems were tied to a legal system that only recognized them as "people."

Of course, most of these women could choose not to have sex or to have faith in faulty contraceptives (remember, the Pill only became legal in Canada in 1969). But sometimes, accidents do happen.

And children should NEVER be the victims of an accident.

Although the ethics of abortion will not be discussed here, it is clear that no one, not a parent, a teacher, a lover, a newspaper, a government or a religion can ever make the choice for a pregnant woman.

The choice is and should be hers.

But more often, especially here in Victoria, where doctors offering the procedure are nearing the age of retirement, this choice is threatened.

The age of these doctors combined with the increased threat of anti-abortion terrorism leaves fewer practicing physicians willing to offer the procedure. The result: less options for women.

Nowadays, various contraceptives are easy to come by and the morning-after pill is available from most pharmacies. Still, this has not eliminated the need for abortion.

The doctors who perform abortions today install bulletproof glass in their clinic windows, do not enter rooms without having someone else draw the curtains first and drive different routes home every day from work.

They fear for their lives.

These doctors and their families are put at risk for their profession every moment of every day.

Because of this very real fear, the B.C. government made it illegal to protest in front of abortion clinics, doctors' offices and doctors' homes.

But despite the government's attempts to ensure the safety of the doctors, young physicians are not willing to risk their lives to perform abortions.

Who can blame them? Would you choose to wear a bulletproof vest every day to work when you are trained to help people?

Even so, women who face unwanted pregnancies will feel the consequences of the frightened and rapidly shrinking number of doctors willing to perform abortions.

What those of us in university now don't remember are the horrors of kitchen-table abortions. Done with coat hangers, poisons, twisted branches and other items, women and their friends, families or lovers would risk their lives to end unwanted pregnancies.

This is why we need safe, sterile and free abortions like the ones we have today.

The six physicians who offer abortions in Victoria can now keep up with the demand. But they will retire in the next decade or so. Who will take their place?

Before 1969, abortion and contraception were illegal in Canada and the former was punishable by life imprisonment.

After 1969, women's choice was left to a hospital abortion committee.

If women are indeed people, as declared by the Persons Act of 1929, then they too have the right to decide their future. They should have the choice to become mothers or not.

No committee should EVER make that decision. And neither should fear.

Making abortion legal is not enough.

Laws mean little behind bulletproof glass.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 12:30 p.m. in SUB b110a. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Write, write, write; gimme gimme gimme: martlet@uvic.ca

LETTERS

More "Best Wishes" from BC Liberals

I'd like to add another fact to Kevin Groves' list ("Happy New Year from the BC Liberals," Jan 10, 2002). The Liberals are currently reviewing the Residential Tenancy Act. Although public feedback is accepted, there has been little advertisement of this review, so my concern is that people don't know what's happening. The deadline for feedback is January 31, 2002.

There are several key issues that are under consideration. For a comprehensive examination of them, check out the Tenants Rights Action Coalition website at www.tenants.bc.ca or David Shreck's website at www.strategicthoughts.com Both sites contain important information about the proposed changes.

Shelter is a basic need. As students, we are often in a position where we spend much of our income on shelter, which makes us vulnerable. Changes to the Act could potentially harm us. You can send your feedback to the BC Liberals via email at *rto-feedback@ag.gov.bc.ca*. David Shreck's website contains an online form that will be forwarded to this address (www.strategicthoughts.com/inputform/rtareview.html).

It is important the government hear our opinions on this issue. They have done their best to make this difficult for us to do; let's show them that secrecy doesn't work!

Kristin Atwood

Not a calendar girl

Please consider this my official complaint against the UVSS for providing space to sell the Girls of UVic calendar. I would like to frame this complaint not around whether the calendar should or could be sold elsewhere, whether the women portrayed consented or not, whether sexism is subjective. I rather focus this complaint around the responsibility of the UVSS as a political, progressive organization – an organization that is supposed to take issues of poverty, race and gender seriously as outlined in its policy manual.

As a woman of colour who has worked in the student union for three years and has been involved with different constituency organizations with the support of the UVSS, I have to say that I am extremely shocked and saddened at the accessibility provided for this calendar. There seemed to have been no consideration to the UVSS's own policy that the society supports "the right to an education environment free of sexual harassment."

With a lengthy, eloquent gender issues policy, I am a little stunned as to how the UVSS found it appropriate and within its mandate to not only provide space but receive money from the table rental from content as offensive as this. I am fully aware of the ongoing debates around the subjectivity of sexism, however I feel that the UVSS is quite capable of making a strong, political case as to why this material is not appropriate. I also feel the UVSS can defend this position as it has in the past to support and advocate on behalf of students who are the victims of sexist violence.

The UVSS can make a decision on which organizations and businesses to support. This decision can be political but should be based on the UVSS values of gender equality and safety for women on campus. Your allowance for such material indicates that this is not a strong commitment, as it should be. This issue is not about censorship, but about your power and right to choose what to support and which organizations/businesses to take money from. I recommend that you exercise this right and power with more veracity when it comes to issues of racism, sexism, homophobia and poverty.

I am hoping that the UVSS takes a strong stand against this calendar and any other business/organization that depicts sexist images by not providing or renting the space that supports them. To continue to do so would make your Gender Issues policy hypocritical and illegitimate if the UVSS truly cares about women's equality and empowerment on campus and in the community. Furthermore, I feel that it is only appropriate that the UVSS give the money gained by the rented tables to an organization committed to making a safe space for women on campus and fighting sexist stereotypes and sexual violence on a daily basis such as OUR Sexual Assault Centre, the Women's Centre and/or Men Against Sexualized Violence.

This calendar depicts images that support sexist ideas that this progressive organization claims to be or should be against. The UVSS should not be supporting these ideas, or making money off of them by providing these ideas with student tables. Furthermore, I believe that I can hang out, work, wander around the Student Union without these images in the halls. The Student Union I want to belong to and support needs to take this issue seriously if it, indeed, wants to be a safe space for women (and I mean all women, not the thin, sexy, white-types).

I would appreciate your swift response to this situation.

Sincerely,

Sharmeen "Your Chubby, Not-So-Sexy, Paki" Khan

PS: I noticed that you don't have an anti-racist policy within your policy manual, but am feeling too tired to write why the UVSS needs one.

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[2000/2001]
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INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVES

Grabbing the Whiteman: Academic racism and bias on campus

by Gordon de Frane

First People are first only when it comes to academic racism and bias at UVic. Whether it is chronic under-feeding for the Native Student Union by the UVSS or direct attacks on Aboriginal Counselling by Counselling Services, racism flourishes on campus. Other examples of bias include undermining the Aboriginal Liaison Office by gutting its budget and denying new equipment and services through administrative channels and outright blatant racist attitudes.

The Aboriginal Liaison Office (ABLO), was also subject to bias through the previous administrator who believed that she could ignore the knowledge and teachings of local indigenous peoples. The current Aboriginal Liaison Officer is not only familiar with these but is a member of the Salish nations.

In the classroom discrimination happens through the built-in bias of taking for granted that only the Anglo-European methodologies of instruction are acceptable. Finally discrimination in the classroom occurs by singling out aboriginal students for the aboriginal point of view.

Racism and bias towards Aboriginal students is nothing new at UVic. Since indigenous peoples have been allowed to get education, a clash between teaching and learning styles has emerged.

The relationship of UVic and the UVSS BoD is something similar to that of the federal and provincial governments. UVic is the federal impact and UVSS BoD emulates the provincial counterpart. The effects, though, are the same. Aboriginal students, staff and faculty get by with nominal funding, limited services and programs, and always the threat of cutbacks, reduced services and programs and conflict.

> UVic emulates the government's historic prerogatives by undermining Aboriginal People. The feds achieve this through sustained state-sanctioned chronic underfunding, reduced services and programs. UVic achieves it through similar means.

Often the conflict means that Aboriginal students do not complete their studies. It also means that supports, services and programs are at risk of being cutback or never implemented.

A Metis Elder quotes statistics saying that 77 per cent of Aboriginal students in B.C. do not finish school. Only half of the 23 per cent who do go on to post secondary will graduate.

This contrasts with the early days of educating the Noble Savage. History records that Canadian governments under church tutelage sought to solve the "Indian problem."

The problem was how to turn brown skinned people into white acting and sounding civilized citizens.

The first step was the incarnation of the Indian Industrial Schools. These schools were created so that the educated elite would have a ready supply of semi-literate savages to work for them.

History witnesses that the Indian Industrial Schools failed. It was discovered that while you could take the savage out of the land you couldn't kill the land in the savage. The residential school system came next with the idea that, if you got the children early enough, assimilation would follow, and last.

These schools no longer exist but the attitudes and behaviours that fostered their existence persevere. They are just as potent and destructive today on campus as they were in the 19th and 20th centuries. The threat of the BC Liberal Referendum on Treaties is witness to that end.

The discipline of Linguistics sheds light on academic racism and bias. Discrimination in the classroom is more than a S-O-V structure in your sentences. The epitome in English is good grammar; a proper sentence must have a subject, object and verb.

Linguistics identifies that in the oral traditions of Aboriginal people, grammar rules differ.

Oral traditions rely solely upon object and verb or verb and subject structures. The "meaning of the story" is derived from context.

For example, Tulalip storyteller Johnny Moses' stor, "Lady Louse" starts with an action of something being done by someone, for some reason.

"One day, she took it.
From corner to corner of the Longhouse.
There was a great mass in the centre.
Poor Lady Louse, she got lost."

The context of this story is about lice-vermin.

Lady Louse is a character reaching beyond her station in life.

She was cleaning her lodge – irony: vermin trying to be clean.

She swept the dirt to the centre.

She never got rid of it, just moved it around.

She got lost – it fell on her, ending poor Lady Louse.

Aboriginal students in the Fine Arts Department have trouble getting their points of view across to their profs. Many NSU members feel that often UVic profs are not qualified to understand what is being presented to them by their Aboriginal students.

Fay Gray, a Metis/Cree student said she had made a comment to a prof about the images carved into a piece of artwork. The comments corrected some incorrect assumptions about a First Nations carving. "My comments were ignored. Yet, as a storyteller, I knew that what she was teaching was not entirely correct," Gray said.

This is just one end of the continuum. Aboriginal students often speak about being singled out as the only FN student in a class. They are then expected to give the "Aboriginal viewpoint."

The Writing Department believes that first year students should not even think about having a voice or style.

For many Aboriginal students, this sentiment rings hollow. The Writing Department wants their students to present new and fresh approaches.

William George, a First Nation Student, accomplished published poet and writer, struggles with the Writing Department. George strives to preserve and retain the oral traditions as he translates them into written form. He seeks to keep orality in his writing.

George feels that the marriage of Aboriginal oral traditions and customs with written form is too fresh and too new for the Writing Department.

For George, the issue of academic racism and bias started after he transferred from En'owkin Centre. He graduated with a certificate.

The writing program at En'owkin is supposed to have transferable credits with UVic. George, along with several other Aboriginal students discovered that the transferability is not cut and dried. The subject of transferring rests on arbitrary decisions and conditions made by the Writing Department, on a case by case basis.

George is considering changing majors.

In this context it appears that academic myopia means another Aboriginal student has not been served.

Academic success is linked to understanding the holistic approach to well-being in many Aboriginal cultures. The focus is not just on the physical but stems from discerning the spiritual wellness of Aboriginal students; many indigenous people see the human being composed of four parts: body, mind, spirit and emotional or mental.

Gray says that after years of talking about it, and stonewalling, Aboriginal Counselling services finally became a reality. Aboriginal Counselling works with Aboriginal students to help them be successful in their studies. In addition to one-on-one counselling, Dr. Bill McGhee facilitates, along with Roger John, weekly talking circles. The talking circles are accessible and provide an opportunity for indigenous students to share in a safe environment.

The process of hiring took over a year. The position was for only a half-time consideration so UVic experienced difficulty attracting an Aboriginal Counselor. Sources say that they have documented evidence that almost since Counselling Services have been available the request for Aboriginal specific staff and faculty has been ignored or just not responded to. However, Aboriginal students advocated for the position to be re-evaluated and posted as full-time with half-time duties for Aboriginal students.

Gray said that her success on campus includes extra-academic needs and how the services are provided by the University. Until recently, there was no culturally sensitive counselling resource for First Nations students. As a Peer Helper, she was *the* First Nations contact in the Counselling Department for nearly five years.

George and Gray's experience underscore the lack of sensitivity and understanding that impedes success for many Aboriginal students. Academic racism and bias impacts not only Aboriginal students, it affects services and programs too. Gray said now that a First Nations Counselor has been hired, policies and actions of department heads limit access to the Aboriginal Counselor. This proves insensitivity to, and uncaring attitudes, of the needs of First Nations students. And yet they still claim to encourage and want the participation of First Nations students, staff and faculty.

At this point it would be easy to say that UVic practices good fiscal responsibility and prudent resource management dictated by current soft economics. That being the case, perhaps UVic should take a stroll down the road. Camosun College addressed the importance of Aboriginal students, staff and faculty in its over all business plan. Not only has it been able to preserve and retain services and programs, it even expanded services and programs and the number of Aboriginals on staff. Economics is not an excuse it seems to hinder Aboriginal success at College or University – of course current BC Liberal attitudes that could threaten Camosun's achievements.

UVic emulates the federal government's historic prerogatives by undermining Aboriginal People. The feds achieve this through sustained state-sanctioned chronic underfunding, reduced services and programs. UVic achieves it through similar means with the added benefit of Academic Racism and Bias in it relationship with Aboriginal students, staff and faculty.

In the Salish Longhouses grabbing someone means initiation into certain ceremonies and rites. Grabbing someone could also be a means of correcting undesirable behaviours and attitudes manifested by the initiate. Grabbing the Whiteman from time to time could go a long way in bringing to his or her attention the need to change attitudes, the need to look at the racism practiced and sometimes not evident to the abuser. Grabbing the Whiteman or woman is also a way to correct and restore the balance in the relationship between Aboriginal students, staff and faculty and UVic staff and faculty.

op/ed continued on page 19

the Martlet presents a

News Writing Workshop

Friday, January 18th from **12.30 to 2.00 pm**, you are invited to come spend time with *martlet* crew members, some with real live experience in the field of journalism, in **SUB b025** to learn fun and interesting tidbits about writing for a newspaper! The round table discussion will focus on news writing but will cover various journalism writing skills you can apply everywhere in life (more useful than algebra, they say).

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waning access

How the anti-abortion terror campaign is working

by Shauna Nast

Victoria physician Dr. Mary Conley is concerned. After having devoted her entire medical career to providing women with access to safe abortions, she now wonders if there will be someone to take her place when she retires.

Victoria used to be home to about a dozen doctors who perform abortions. That number has since dropped by half, with a similar trend occurring on other areas of Vancouver Island.

"Six family doctors is enough to meet current need, but all of us are over 50," says Dr. Conley, who has been performing abortions in Victoria since the early 1970s and has also served as director of coalition for Choice. "Unless there are other doctors to take our place, our retirement will bring an end to abortion services in Victoria."

There are multiple reasons for the lack of doctors willing to provide abortions. Chronic underfunding of the health care system is partially responsible. Every week in Victoria, another GP walks away from their practice because they can't afford to pay the overhead.

What's more, those family doctors who have managed to stay afloat lack financial incentive to perform abortions. Abortion is considered a minor surgical procedure, and the fees for first and second trimester abortions have been cut by 17 per cent and 27 per cent, respectively. The fee for first trimester abortions currently sits at the 1982 level.

Dr. Conley cites another reason for the lack of physicians who provide abortions: complacency.

"I'm from a generation that saw first hand the effects of unsafe abortions performed in back alleys or on the kitchen table," says Dr. Conley, who traces her own commitment to abortion rights to seeing her girlfriend receive an abortion on a kitchen table when they were only 13. She explains these experiences kindled a passion for the pro-choice movement and motivated many doctors to include abortion among the services they offer.

The younger generation of doctors is less acquainted with the reasons why access to safe abortions is important.

But perhaps the most significant reason for the decline in abortion services is the anti-abortion terror campaign. Every year, Dr. Conley trains young physicians who come to her wanting to know how to do abortions. But when she asks them if they will make abortion part of their practice, they almost invariably say no. And the reason is always the same: it is too dangerous.

Since abortion was made legal and unrestricted in Canada in 1988, anti-abortion violence has skyrocketed. Clinics have been bombed and doctors have been attacked. In 1992 the Toronto Morgentaler clinic was firebombed, and in 1996 the Edmonton Morgentaler clinic suffered a butyric acid attack. In 1995 and 1997 Dr. Hugh Short of Hamilton and Dr. Jack Fainman of Winnipeg were both shot in their homes. In 1994 Dr. Garson Romalis of Vancouver was shot and seriously wounded at his home, and just last year he was stabbed in the back as he was entering his medical office. He survived the attack.

The government has taken steps to ensure the safety of doctors who make abortion part of their medical practice. After the shooting of Dr. Romalis the government hired private investigators to counsel all physicians who perform abortions on how to avoid a similar attack.

Dr. Conley remembers the eerie visit.

"They debriefed me at home for six hours, describing in detail all the possible ways in which I could be attacked and what strategies I could use to stay safe. Take a different route home from work every day, they said. Always have someone else pull the blinds or curtains shut before you enter a room. Get a dog."

In 1995 the B.C. government made it illegal to protest in front of abortion clinics, doctors' offices or doctors' homes. When a court struck down the Access to Abortion Services Act in 1996, the B.C. Court of Appeals restored the Act to full force, stating that in certain circumstances it is legitimate to restrict freedom of speech when individuals' lives are at risk.

A vigorous police effort was initiated in 1997 to find the individual or individuals responsible for the attacks on physicians. Given the similarity of the attacks, police suspected that a single individual was responsible. Their prime suspect was arrested in France in March 2001. It is hoped that with his arrest Canada will see a cessation of violent attacks against abortion providers.

But the intimidation goes on. Last year a man was arrested hiding in the bushes in front of a Victoria medical office with a camera, a dreaded instrument to any physician performing a controversial procedure. These pictures are circulated among anti-abortionists, identifying the doctor as a target. Dr. Conley has also had her picture taken at public talks, where she is regularly heckled. And she frequently receives hate mail from anti-abortion groups.

"To this day I can't bring myself to enter a room with an uncovered window," says Dr. Conley. She also installed a bullet proof window at her Victoria office.

The knowledge of attacks in the past, some not so distant, combined with ongoing forms of intimidation, is enough to frighten most young doctors away from formally associating themselves with the procedure of abortion. In this sense the terror campaign of certain anti-abortionists is working.

As a result, a crisis of severely restricted access to abortion is looming on the horizon.

For years, women's groups have complained that women in rural areas lack access to abortion. Now this phenomenon is spreading to the cities. If women can't get an abortion in Victoria, they will have to go to Vancouver. That is both an inconvenience and expense that makes abortion significantly less accessible for many women; especially those most likely to be in need of it.

A small sector of society is using terror to derail the democratic process. Rather than engaging in dialogue and limiting its 'weapons' to reasoned debate, it has invented a bargain with pro-choice physicians that forces doctors to choose between their security and their ideals. Most physicians – and who can blame them? – choose their security. This bargain effectively places 'heroic' on the list of qualifications necessary to becoming a doctor who performs abortions in Canada.

Some people, like Dr. Conley and Dr. Morgentaler, her mentor, have been willing to be heroes for the sake of their ideals. Will another generation of heroes take their place when they retire? At this point it looks unlikely.

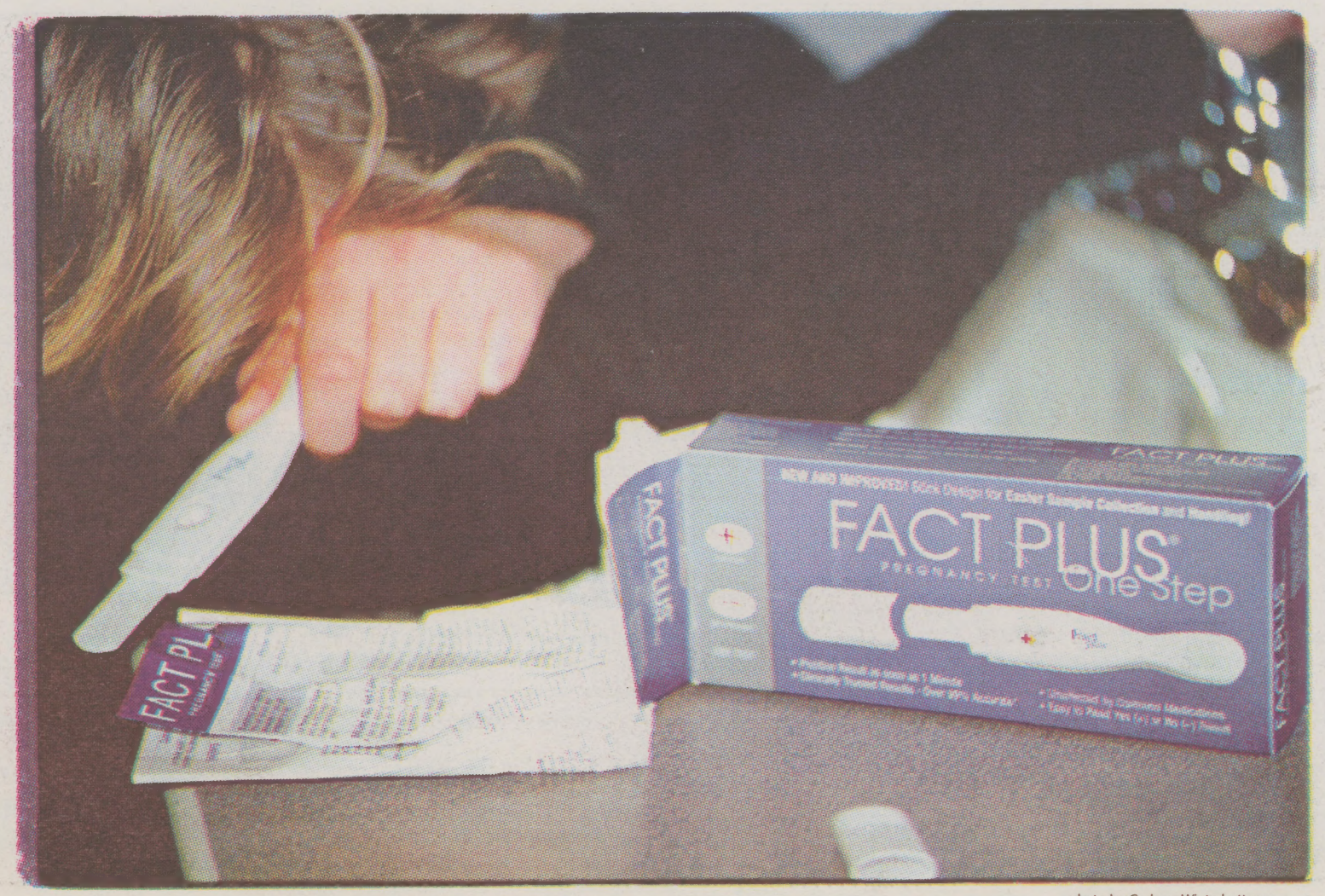


photo by Graham Winterbottom

Honouring Morgentaler

Dr. Henry Morgentaler, the man who almost single-handedly stripped abortion of all legal restriction in Canada, is an individual people either love or despise. Standing only five feet tall, he flaunted Bill 251 to the extreme, even allowing national television to show him performing an illegal abortion on Mother's Day. Bill 251 made the permission of a hospital abortion committee mandatory for all abortions.

Dr. Morgentaler's behaviour was more than a protest. It was a strategy to give women unrestricted access to abortion in Canada. Once convicted of "conspiring to procure a miscarriage" for performing an abortion without the permission of a hospital committee, he pursued his way up through the courts until he stood before the Supreme Court of Canada, the only court with the authority to overturn federal law. The first time he stood before the Supreme Court, he lost his liberty and went to jail for ten months. The second time, the Supreme Court struck down Bill 251, and abortion acquired the status of any other medical procedure in Canada.

In her association with the pro-choice movement, Dr. Conley is proud to have worked with the man whom Pierre Burton has nominated for the Order of Canada every year running for the past decade. (Dr. Morgentaler has never won.) Her memories of Dr. Morgentaler shed light on this dynamic and nationally-significant personality.

Dr. Conley first met Dr. Morgentaler in 1981. At that time she was working as a family doctor in Victoria, offering abortions as part of her practice in conjunction with the hospital abortion committee system. Meanwhile, on the other side of the country in his Montreal clinic, Dr. Morgentaler was illegally pioneering the procedure of abortion. He was the first to use local anesthetic and he introduced the suction technique from France.

Dr. Morgentaler invited Dr. Conley to come to Montreal for a few weeks and learn what he was doing. The Montreal clinic was in a converted character house.

"It was surprisingly well equipped and well staffed," remembers Dr. Conley. "There were three operating rooms, each with three nurses."

And there were lots of other doctors who had come to learn.

Everyone working at the Montreal clinic was risking imprisonment because at that time performing an abortion without the permission of a hospital committee was a criminal offense. But spirits were high. At lunch Dr. Morgentaler used to load up the car and take everyone out to eat.

Dr. Conley came back to Victoria two weeks later but keeps in contact with Dr. Morgentaler to this day, on three occasions playing host to him in Victoria. Dr. Conley tells the story of when she and her boyfriend were taking Dr. Morgentaler to the Victoria Airport: "We were concerned that he might be harassed. When we entered the lobby, he was instantly recognized by the crowd. People began to stand up and approach him. But – thank God – there were smiles on their faces. They slapped Henry on the back, thanked him and wished him well."

Dr. Morgentaler first began promoting access to abortion as the president of the Montreal Humanist Society. He was one of the original voices urging the federal government in the 1960s to decriminalize abortion.

"When he started out, he thought that it wouldn't take long at all to change things," Dr. Conley says.

photo provided

Dr. Conley with Dr. Morgentaler at the Victoria Airport.

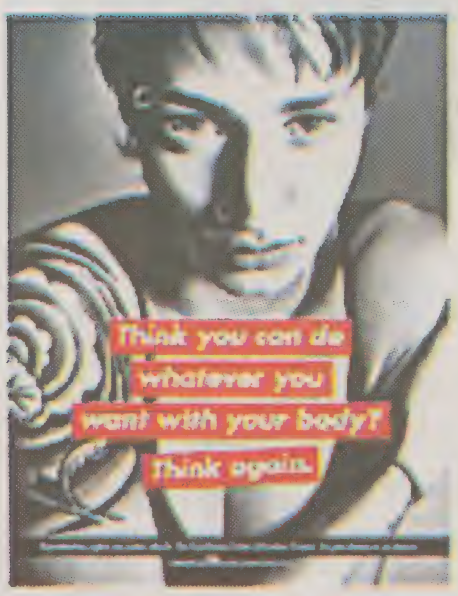
He would eagerly invite people to debate the issue. But after his clinic was bombed, he lost faith in human rationality and chose only to work through the courts.

Dr. Morgentaler's willingness to risk imprisonment stemmed in part from his time in a concentration camp as a child.

"I asked him once if he was afraid to be arrested," says Dr. Conley. "He told me that, after Auschwitz, the Canadian government was peanuts."

Today Dr. Morgentaler is still active in the abortion issue on the eastern side of the country. Some Atlantic provinces refuse to pay for abortions that are performed in clinics. Dr. Morgentaler has successfully challenged this restriction in court, but the provincial governments continue to fight against coverage.

Despite his historical achievements, Dr. Conley insists Dr. Morgentaler remains humble, good natured and grounded. When Dr. Conley phoned him up recently to let him know that she was nominating him for an award, he laughed and told her not to bother.



A brief history of abortion in Canada

Prior to 1988 and the introduction of Bill 251, abortion was illegal in Canada without the permission of a hospital abortion committee. Abortion committees could only permit abortions when the pregnancy posed serious risk to the woman's health. The woman's doctor was not allowed to be on the committee, the woman could not testify before the committee and the decision of the committee was final. On average, the waiting time for an abortion under the hospital committee system was two months.

Hospital committees were introduced in 1969 by Bill 251. Before 1969 all abortions were illegal in Canada and punishable by life imprisonment. Contraception was also illegal. Under pressure from religious, professional and social groups, Pierre Trudeau, then Justice Minister, introduced the Abortion Reform Bill that eventually led to Bill 251. Bill 251 was overthrown in 1988 when the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in Dr. Morgentaler's favour.

photo by Lyndsay Janes

Curtain calls for vaginas

by Heather Neale

VAGINA. There, I said it. And so did over 60 other women Saturday at auditions for UVic's upcoming stage production of *The Vagina Monologues*, written by prize-winning playwright, poet and screenwriter Eve Ensler.

Auditions ran at the David Lam Auditorium in the MacLaurin Building from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m., but volunteers and organizers stayed until 11:30 p.m., making the final decisions on who would be right for the parts – of the play, not the body.

"It was a long day," said Sara Stillman, UVic student and VDay volunteer. Stillman was very excited about the "truly amazing" people that came out to audition. The collective is looking for women committed not only to rehearsals but also to the issues addressed by the monologues. VDay promotes awareness of violence against women, as well as women's sexuality and the plight to separate it from notions of shame.

The idea to stage the production at UVic was speerheaded by Nina Purewal, a recent UVic graduate with a B.A. in political science, who received the book as a gift.

"All women can relate to this," said Purewal. "I was moved by the way it was a book about women for women and not in relation to anyone else."

Following up proactively on her excitement, Purewal approached her friends Adrienne Bonfonti and Samina Malik, and the three women headed down to Long Beach California in October for a workshop on how to run a production and train actors. The workshop was put on by Eve Ensler herself.

So I showed up Saturday to try out for the play. I wanted to find out more about the production and to try my hand at acting again after extensive time off. (I took a 16-year sabbatical after our third grade production of *The Christmas Pagent*.) I chose to read 'The Vulva Club,' one of the many monologues that make up the whole.

At first I was shy, stashing the word vulva in the back of my throat like chocolate too good to share. I was in an auditorium after all, speaking before five strangers and under high ceilings, and, to me, the word 'vulva' was a rather private word to be shared with my boyfriend, and well, maybe the odd girlfriend now and then.

The more I said it, though, the better it sounded. The V's began to run off my tongue and soon I was proud to say it. The auditioners' faces smiled back.

Suddenly, these words no longer carried anything shameful associated with past violations. I left the auditions with a light heart. It felt good to be honest. It felt good to be a woman, to be sexual and unashamed.

The production runs at the beginning of February in the David Lam Auditorium. A little piece of advice: leave your insecurities and conservative thinking at the door.

Zen and the art of potluck

by David Ball

Pot luck: *whatever (hospitality etc.) is available.*

the Concise Oxford Dictionary

What a strange phenomenon. At one time it would have been almost unimaginable to demand that guests bring their own food to your dinner party. Now, in some social circles, the taboo has flipped entirely. Even if you had wanted to cook for others, they turn up at your door with their own food anyway.

Most of us have probably been to some form of potluck. After all, it is not such a new concept. In many families, every gathering is a potluck. Grandma brings the scalloped potatoes. Dad brings the wine. Uncle Joe brings the beer. Aunt Janet brings the roast beef. Three other aunts (independently) bring three different shades of wobbly jelly-mould dessert. The essence of the potluck is sharing the fruits of each others' labour.

In Victoria there are many thriving potluck communities. They take place in church basements, in loose-knit networks of friends and in the houses of social activists. Myself a potluck enthusiast, I set out to find some experienced potluckers, to discern the nature of the potluck and some of its ins and outs.

The Essence of the Potluck

Natalie Maxson said she was raised on potlucks. In September 2001 she started a potluck group in Victoria with a few social activist friends. To her, the potluck is much more than just eating a meal.

"It's symbolic of our values of breaking down the individualistic tendencies of society," she said. "We're sharing resources."

For Natalie, potlucks also have concrete benefits. It is a good way to get to know people better. And, according to Natalie they are also good occasions to ask people out on a date.

The Taboos

Like any other social situation, potlucking has its rules and taboos. These are helpful to know, especially for those new to the potlucking world.

graphic by Joanna Wong

Taboo #1: Don't turn up with meat at a vegetarian potluck.

Those who value potlucks are vegetarian more often than not, and sometimes vegan. This is a very important consideration, since setting dripping steaks on a table of tabouli, humus and noodle salads will definitely get you some stares.

"As a vegetarian, it's frustrating," said Carolyn Zyha, a potlucker who attends a wide variety of dinners. "It's so annoying to stand there and try to figure out if it's meat."

How can you avoid this problem? "Know thy fellow eaters," Carolyn said. "Or ask the host." She also urges people to label their food.

Taboo #2: Jelly-mould desserts are not "in."

Except for the family get-togethers mentioned above, where the colourful jelly-mould dessert is often a staple, the wobbly gelatine delicacy has gone out of fashion. First of all, gelatine contains meat products, violating Taboo #1. But jelly-moulds carry with them associations unsavoury to the alternative-minded potluck crowd.

"No one my age makes jello salads," says Natalie, reflecting on the fate of the jelly-mould dessert." It seems very 50s. It's reminiscent of the nuclear family. And it's quick and easy, kids like it, and if you don't have teeth it's easy to eat."

Taboo #3: Don't come empty-handed.

Turning up without any food is perceived to be at very least an embarrassment. At worst, people worry their friends will think them greedy and opportunistic, for coming to eat their food without offering anything in return. However, both experts agree that this taboo is in fact a misperception.

"I encourage people to come even if they can't bring anything," said Carolyn. "What you bring is not what it's about. It's about sharing the fruits of Mother Earth."

What to bring

First of all, vegan dishes free from all animal products, including dairy and eggs are probably the safest things to bring. Some potluckers try to keep their recipes wheat-free if possible, to respect people with wheat allergies. But if you do not have the time to prepare anything for the potluck, a great last minute idea is to grab a few organic fruits at the store. Simple nachos and salsa are also appropriate substitutes for potluck preparation.

Zen and the art of potluck

It becomes clear, however, that there is no 'correct' way to hold a potluck. In fact, it seems the more you try to control the potluck – by, for instance, attempting to manage what food comes – the more problems you will have. Potlucking, according to the experts, is actually about letting go. This is something some potluckers call the "Zen potluck philosophy."

Carolyn Zyha summarizes this philosophy: "All the dishes will show up. Exactly what is needed will arrive."

But what about the dreaded All Soup Potluck, or the All Dessert Potluck? Do these actually happen? Apparently they are very rare. According to the Zen potluck philosophy, everything that is needed will turn up in exactly the right proportions. And if it is all desserts? "Maybe people needed a sugar hit," says Carolyn. "It's karma."

Of course, even the Zen potluck philosophy cannot prevent the occasional potluck mishap. But potluckers do not think of them as disasters or failures. They take them in stride. Carolyn recalls the time her friend brought two home-made pumpkin pies to a potluck. As she got out of the car, the tray caught on the car door, and the pies went flying. Luckily, the first pie landed tray-side down on the pavement. But the other pie landed perfectly on top of the first pie, only face down.

"I thought she was going to cry," recalls Carolyn. "But she just took the pie tray off the top, and we had pumpkin layer pie."

Potlucks just happen. Zen. They work without structure. How can it be that such a simple idea as sharing food together could be so philosophical? Perhaps it is simplicity itself that is the essence of the potluck. In the urban world of concrete, row houses and manicured lawns, potlucks are a way of reconnecting with one another.

It's interesting that the dictionary definition for potluck has nothing to do with food. Whatever is available. Perhaps, in the end, it does not matter what you bring, or how the potluck came to be. Potlucking is about enjoying whatever is available on the table and sharing that with other people. Even if it is a jelly-mould dessert.

Random acts: kindness on tour

by Anne Larrass

photo by Horia Coman

The kindness crew serves food and massage at UVic's Munchie Bar in preparation for their upcoming tour.

At first encounter, you might think that these four friends from Victoria are merely a group of pretty boys and charmers loafing around. But, if you decide to dig a little deeper, you will be surprised to find out that there is a lot more substance to these recent UVic graduates.

For those who have never heard the names Chris Bratseth, Erik Hanson, Val Litwin and Bradley Stokes-Bennett, and the Random Acts of Kindness tour they are presently planning, here is a quick history:

One and a half years ago, the foursome moved in together, purchased a camera and started filming each other and friends performing random acts that ranged from a Billy Elliot spoof at half-time at the Vikes' semi-final basketball game last year, to 'Eat a Poem' in the Clearihue lobby, selling freshly-baked apple cobbler to students who in turn paid for the pastries by writing a poem.

"The students were very happy," said Litwin. "In fact, they were stunned. They couldn't believe that we wanted to give them cobbler for their words of wisdom."

A few months later Bratseth, Hanson and Litwin attempted what they call "the ultra marathon" and ran the entire Juan de Fuca Trail (47kms) in just one day.

Last summer the group went on spontaneous trips to Saltspring Island and Mexico, filming urban life and participating in a Hare Krishna celebration.

Since then their focus has narrowed and what they do now is perform random acts of kindness. Some of these acts of kindness range from teaching yoga in the streets to massaging the shoulders of tired hair stylists in a local hair salon.

"We want to get people excited about helping with humour and to leave a wake of positivity behind," said Litwin.

photo by Anne Larrass

Team Kindness insists they aren't just a bunch of pretty boys hanging around. They have an important mission to bring random acts of good to the masses.

The group has produced an interactive web television show that features their story, one that inspires people to engage in similar acts of kindness in their own community.

Now the group is planning a trip through North America where they plan to commit one thousand random acts of kindness.

"We want to connect with and change the lives of thousands of people face to face, learning their stories and sending them off with a smile and a new outlook on life," said Bratseth.

For the past year, the group has been collecting stories and ideas for their tour.

Ideas range from buying a complete stranger lunch to washing someone's car when and where they least expect it.

Approaching others to join the group in a volunteer act such as running for cancer or taking kids to Disneyland who otherwise couldn't afford it are only a fraction of their numerous unique ideas.

"We could show up at your doorstep because we need your help entertaining some children at a nearby hospital," said Bratseth.

The group is planning a trip through North America where they plan to commit one thousand random acts of kindness.

As they are on tour the film footage depicting their acts of kindness will be uploaded onto their website www.extremekindness.com each day for the world to access and be inspired by.

As the tour will be expensive the quartet is actively seeking sponsorship from respectable local and big businesses. So far, two local businesses, Frontrunners and ReBar, have agreed to contribute, but the road is still long, and it might take them longer than anticipated before the project can be launched.

Why the tour now? The goal of Extreme Kindness is to inspire and uplift North America, especially after the recent tragedies that have affected the entire world community.

"There is no better time for such a tour. To empower and entertain are our motivating forces. It is also an excellent time to bring Canada and the United States together," said Bratseth. "We want to show that people can make a difference. This is what we love to do and have been performing in our own community, and they have really grabbed on to it," he added.

Norm LeBus, a videographer and producer for the New VI who has worked with the quartet is intrigued by their concept.

"It's a light switch in the community. They are opening the community's eyes. What they are doing is real and they are being natural," said LeBus.

The overall feedback the group has received is positive, but the process is long. And even though they are working diligently on increasing sponsorship, it seems unlikely that they will be able to raise the entire sum of $120,000 by March 1. They will leave, nevertheless.

"This is a kindness marathon and we will not stop until we have reached our goal," said Bratseth.

Campus culture calendar

Writing Department
JBI Sundays (James Bay Inn, 270 Government St.) is hosting a Writing Student's Union reading, featuring six writers from the UVic writing department. This event is taking place on Sunday, Jan. 20, at 8:00 p.m. and addmission is free.

Visual Arts Department
First Annual Video Festival to be held on Thursday, Jan. 24, at 7 p.m. in the Visual Arts Building. Featuring short films and videos made by UVic Students. Admission is $5 at the door.

Music Department
Fridaymusic, 12:30 p.m. Phillip T. Young Recital Hall School of Music string students. Admission by donation.

Faculty Recital Saturday, January 23, 8:00 p.m. ($12 & $8) Phillip T. Young Recital Hall
Eva Solar-Kinderman, piano
Ann Elliott-Goldschmid, violin
Paula Kiffner, cello
Beethoven- Trio in E-flat, Op. 1 No. 1
Dvorak- Trio in E, Op. 90 (Dumky)
Shubert- Trio in B-flat, Op. 99, D. 898

Guest Recital
Wednesday, January 25, 8 p.m. University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Hilario Duran (piano), a renowned Cuban jazz pianist and composer. Presented as part of The Orion Series in Fine Arts: Free admission.

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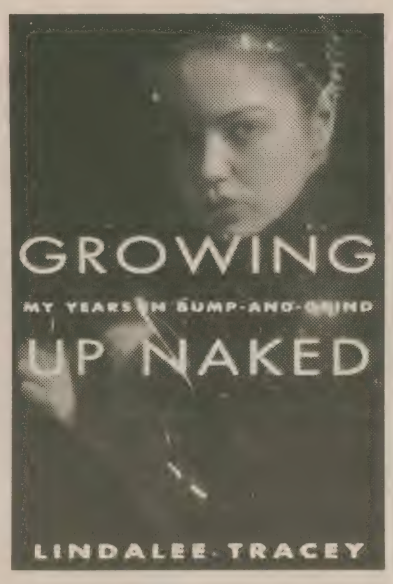
A stripper tells her story

by Kristin McIntosh



Lindalee Tracy's memoir vividly reminded me of an experience I once had.

I have been to a strip club once. It was September 1998, my first year at UVic, as part of my initiation into the rowing team. Told that a picture with a stripper was worth 500 points in the scavenger hunt, my mostly female team (there was one boy) charged down to a popular strip bar in Victoria. There we marched in, myself underage, and paid ten bucks for a young girl, no older than myself, to peel off her full length baby-blue tight dress and stand naked, with the five of us, smiling into the lens. That picture was pasted with others on the wall of a keg party later that night to be judged; people passed by it laughing and pointing, picking her apart, criticizing her breasts and thighs. My team won the contest and we went home proud and satisfied. I never thought about it again.

Tracey makes the mistake of assuming that all women in pornography must feel indecent and exploited.

After reading Tracey's book, I am embarrassed to tell that story. I am embarrassed because throughout the book she talks about the stereotype of strippers – the way society feels sorry for them yet feels ashamed of them.

I am embarrassed because I am one of those people. After reading Tracey's book I felt like I had betrayed a friend, her continuing honesty made me feel guilty and intrigued at the same time.

In this autobiography, Tracey effectively records the decline of striptease from its golden era in the late 1970s to its current state of spreads, go go dancers and silicone breasts. Throughout the book, her enticing memories show the humanity and creativity behind stripping. Tracey speaks candidly in the first person and has no problem sharing her history and showing how it molded the person she has become.

In the first few pages we are taken into Toronto's prestigious club, Eden, where the women are performers who entertain the audience with their talents and men admiring them. At the end of the book we are left in some of New York's hardest clubs where women are objectified and men are only concerned with parts and proportions of the women's bodies.

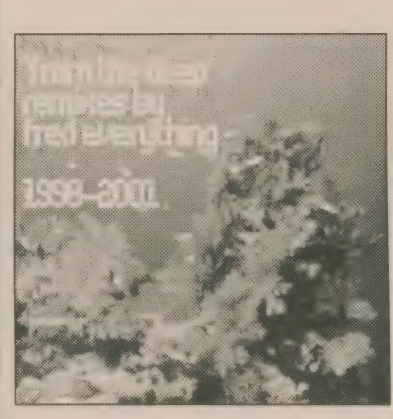
At the beginning of the story, stripping is portrayed as being as much about the female's personality as her body. We are introduced to a collage of lively characters and attitudes. As the industry becomes more faceless, so do the characters in the book. The end only leaves us left with Tracey herself.

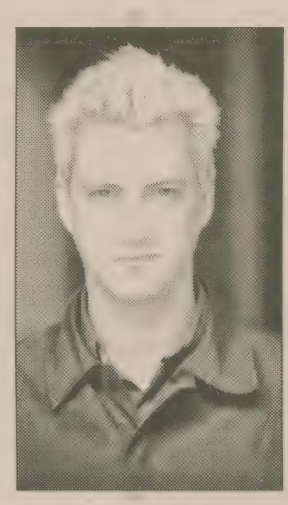
Though the book includes many of Tracey's experiences, good and bad, I felt that the end of the book goes further than it needs to. The last chapter could have easily been cut out without detriment to the reader. While Tracey's experience with the National Film Board is interesting and even touching, it doesn't fit in with the story of the book. Donna Laframboise from the Montreal Gazette put it best when she wrote, "Up to this point, the book has been brutally honest, but it has been a narrative rather than a political argument."

In the last chapter of the book, Tracey begins a discussion that goes against everything she has been writing about. While accomplishing her goal to have the reader look beyond the stereotype of strippers, she finishes by condemning pornography and declaring that it is dirty. At a photo shoot when one women agrees with her, Tracey makes the mistake of assuming that all women in pornography must feel indecent and exploited. Unfortunately, she never portrays the other side of the argument and that undermines the book leaving the reader with a very hypocritical feeling.

Though Lindalee Tracey is no longer a stripper, she doesn't regret or deny her background. In the afterword, Tracey states that strip clubs are where she learned to write: "I learned to see into the secrets of the human heart, to measure human worth. I became a writer there."

Today she is an author, journalist, filmmaker, producer and a partner in White Pine Pictures (an independent film and production company). Her work stems into all mediums including radio, television, print, drama, script-writing for the NFB, and documentaries for CBC. Her books have won awards and her films have collected Genie and Gemini nominations as well as having appeared nationally and internationally. Her magazine features have also won national awards and the Globe and Mail chose her book *On The Edge* as one of the ten best nonfiction books in 1993.





A little bit of Everything

By Miranda Post

I'm not a poet. I won't even pretend to be, but the musical abilities of Fred Everything inspired me to write a little ditty that goes a lil' something like this:

Frederic Blais is his name.

Remixing, rewriting and reinterpreting is this boy from Quebec City's main game.

Everything is the moniker he uses in the Canadian Deep house scene.

Dj-ing is something that Everything considers his second calling after composing and producing house music that is never lean.

Eventually I got a hold of Monsieur Everything after he returned from a little vacation in Cuba.

Vigorous is how I'd describe the deep dance floor classics on his latest release *From the Deep Remixes by Fred Everything 1998-2001*. From accordion-couched "Astounded" by Bran Van 3000 featuring Curtis Mayfield to a latino-dub version of "Watch Them Come" by Roy Davis Jr. featuring Peven Everett, Everything adds a little of his own flavour to all 10 tracks on the compilation.

"Elevator" by Jaffa is also a mainstay on From the Deep.

Respectfulness is a rule Everything abides by. "I try to be really respectful with the remix. I kinda make it the way I would've made it first, you know. I really try to keep the same strong song structure . . . I try to keep the vocals and then re-arrange things."

Young is what he is at age 25.

Terry Francis even bumped into Everything while they were both in the Havanna jive.

Herbie Hancock and Chic Correa are two of the stars who supposedly tickled the ivories of his Rhodes Fender, a secondhand keyboard that used to get rented out at Montreal jazz festivals and gigs.

International exposure is what he gained after his first big gig at the 1997 In the City festival in Glasgow, Scotland. Since then he has performed in countries across the globe, such as Russia, South Africa, Norway and Spain.

Naughty is what he isn't when it comes to dj-ing. When asked about his groupie factor he seemed sort of shy. "Maybe you should ask other people," sweet Fred replied.

Go see him play at Lucky this Friday night at Northern Soul, the first episode in a series of one-offs intended to showcase the best of Canadian house talent, eh.

Trust me this man's music is better than my poetry skills.

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Tegan and Sara pack the rafters

by Simon Glezos

So can somebody who was at the Tegan and Sara show on Friday night back me up on something? Was it just me, or did Sara seem like she was pissed off at Tegan about something? Don't get me wrong, they've always had that whole squabbling siblings shtick (damn alliteration) thing working for them in their live shows, but this is the first time where I've actually believed it.

Did this affect the show at all? Well maybe. The duets and two part harmonies that usually came easily to their vocal presence seemed strained somewhat, but I can't decide if this weakened the music, or invested them with a certain intensity that I personally found kind of compelling. Strife can do interesting things sometimes, put an edge to music that might not have been there in the past, bring out themes you may not have noticed. Or maybe I was just imagining things. What the hell do I know?

Opening act The Way Out eased everyone into the night with a 45-minute set that seemed to encompass the last 45 years of indie rock history. The four man band was a little sloppy musically, but one couldn't help getting the feeling it was intentional, and it didn't seem to impede their ability to rock out, so who am I to complain. Bassist Gabe and drummer Casey did solid work backing up Tegan and Sara later on in the show, as well as providing some choice beats to groove to throughout the opening set.

Friday was Tegan and Sara's first show in several months, as they've been off recording an upcoming album (about damn time) due out in the summer, a fact which showed in the slightly ragged edges of their performance early on. However, after a few songs (and some frantic technical fiddling, a seeming constant of Tegan and Sara shows) the duo regained the musicianship and passion for which they're known.

Their guitar work continues to get more complex, providing both musical intricacy and outright percussive power. (Sara, for the record seems to be slowly transforming into Janis Joplin, something which I, for one, have no intention of complaining about.) Indeed, the strength of their guitar work made the presence of the opening acts drummer and bassists for a few songs kind of superfluous. This more full sound was nice, but not necessarily necessary.

And of course just as entertaining, if not more so, than the twin sisters music was their much-loved and remarked-upon banter. Tegan and Sara are some of the few performers for whom extended between-song dialogues aren't just indulgent but rather genuinely hilarious and compelling. In a disturbing phenomenon that would seem to suggest that the principle of merit is not entirely absent in the music industry, the two folk rockers seem to be gathering quite the following. They packed Lucky Bar to the rafters, and even B.C. punk goddess Bif Naked was in the audience. (Hey, I should get my editor to put that in bold, turn it into one of those Malcolm Perry society columns.)

photo by Shoshana Waxman

What's with the not-so-happy look, Sara? Tegan's just doin' her thing...

Stomping Billy Goats bring East Coast flavour

by Cathleen Thom

"Do we have someone to sell the cds," asked Jenny Ritter, guitarist of the Billy Goats Gruff trio, as they set up for their first cd release party.

"That depends on whether we've found someone to wear the goat head," replied Phaedra Kemp, a UVic music student and the diminutive lead singer, percussionist and whistle-player, as she disappeared into the crowd. She returned a moment later dragging a bemused young man down the length of the comfortably bohemian Solstice Cafe.

"So is he going to wear the goat head?," asked Ritter.

"I haven't talked him into that yet," Kemp responded.

Thus began the launch last Friday of *The Million Dollar Tip*, a recording which embodies the culmination of the band's numerous incarnations.

The eclectically Celtic trio, now composed of Kemp, Ritter and fiddler Heather Cunliffe, also a UVic student, began several years ago as The Tippling Rogues, an Irish offshoot of the highly acclaimed Jazz program at Esquimalt Community School.

Since then it has passed through a variety of names, sizes and instrumental combinations which solidified into the Billy Goats Gruff in the summer of 2000, just in time for the busking season.

Though sheltered by the aged brick walls of the Solstice Cafe on Pandora Street, Billy Goats Gruff maintains the honesty and immediacy of their street performances. Phaedra Kemp could certainly have benefited from a microphone, though the harmonized choruses carried beautifully, and the set, which was entirely acoustic, lent a very East Coast flavour to the evening. The way the performers interacted with the diverse but quite often bike helmet-bearing crowd was reminiscent of a good Cape Breton kitchen party. Their cd sold steadily via a bucket-brigade of hands which passed money to the front and cds to the back, all trusting that each album would end up in the proper owner.

The set began, as the album does, with a few traditional airs, but soon shifted over to a broader mix of French Canadian and original songs, and covers anything from the Pogues to Stan Rogers to Simon and Garfunkel, with shades of bluegrass mixed in.

Most of these explorations arose in context with a continued search for Canadian music, whose definition remains mutably elusive. Their success was confirmed by the crowd, who, when the band announced their final song, answered with a resounding "No!"

For a foot-stomping good time watch for Billy Goats Gruff at the Penny Farthing and other venues around town.

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UVic launches indoor season with bronze finish

photo by Horia Coman

Vikes field hockey player plays field hockey, indoors of course, Tuesday afternoon.

by Ruth Knoop

The UVic women's field hockey team is off and running on the new indoor hockey season. The squad placed third last weekend at their first tournament of the new semester.

The Vikes had a good start to the season, winning three out of their five games played. They breezed through their first two games, including a 5-3 victory against the Lonemen, and 4-1 drubbing against the Hawks.

They lost their third game 4-3 against Island Pride, a perennially strong team comprised mainly of UVic students and alumni, including Vikes assistant coach Krista Thompson.

UVic then lost their fourth match of the round robin to the Doves by a 6-4 count. Despite the loss, the team made a good attempt at a comeback when they pulled their goalie late in the second half and quickly scored three goals.

The fifth and final match was, in some way, a repeat of the Canada West final as the women battled UBC for third place.

Unlike the first meeting, however, UVic came out on top and defeated UBC 3-2 on their home turf.

"It was definitely the most energetic game of the tournament," Vikes head oach Lynne Beecroft said. "It was nice to play against UBC. We have a high level of respect for that team. A lot of the girls [from both teams] play together for provincial, so although there is a lot of competitiveness, there is also camaraderie."

Sara Simpson was exceptional throughout the tournament, scoring five goals. Andrea Rushton, Jacquie Hornby and Tara Geach each added three goals apiece.

The indoor season consists of four tournaments, but UVic will only participate in three. The Vikes did not attend the first tournament, held two weekends ago at Simon Fraser University.

Indoor hockey, Beecroft said, is quite different from outdoor. The playing field is smaller and each team fields only six players (including the goalie) instead of the usual 11.

As well, the game consists of two 20-minute halves, as opposed to 35-minute halves. Beecroft rotates between two lines of players for ten minutes in each half.

"Everyone gets equal playing time. I am looking toward September. The extra playing time will benefit for next year."

Vikes face tough competition in weekend homestand

by Adrian Czernick

After coming off two decisive victories in Brandon over the holidays, the Vikes women's basketball team opened the second half of the Canadian Interuniversity Sport season against the eighth-ranked University of Alberta Pandas with confidence and the hope of turning things around after a disastrous start to the year.

Friday night's game saw the Vikes extend their winning streak to three games with a well-deserved 63-57 victory over Alberta.

In the first half, the Pandas used fast breaks and three-point field goals, led by Amanda Smith shooting three for three from beyond the arc, to open up a 12-point lead at the break.

But in the second, the Vikes clamped down in their own end making it difficult for Alberta to move the ball and forcing them take low percentage shots. The tough defence, as well as Krystal O'Byrne's 10 second-half points, helped the team chip away and Vikes were able to take the lead late in the game.

> This team has changed. The effort was there tonight.
>
> *Lindsey Brooke*

UVic's assistant coach Lindsey Brooke thought the team played well.

"This team has changed. The effort was there tonight," she said. "We had strong match-ups and our defence was fantastic."

Lindsay McDonald was the game's top scorer with 18 points while Lindsay Anderson, the team's leader down the stretch, knocked down 17 of her own.

Saturday night produced a far different result. After trading 10-0 runs, the teams sat tied at 30 at the break.

The Pandas took over in the second half with strong defence, catalyzed by the Vikes inability to bury chances of their own.

As a team, the Vikes shot 9 for 35 in the second half to end the game with a 32.8 shooting percentage – not good enough to challenge Alberta.

The Pandas, led by Christine Shewchuk's 18 and Diane Smith's 17 points respectively, were able to move the ball quickly, find the open person and build their lead.

After the game, Vikes head coach Brian Cheng commented on his team's need to play strong for a full 40 minutes.

"We need to be able to finish off games. We are in the toughest league and we are good enough to beat anyone. We just need people to contribute every night."

McDonald, once again, paced the Vikes with 14 points.

The Vikes play host to third-ranked UBC, who come off a weekend split in Winnipeg.

photo by Graham Winterbottom

UVic point guard Kelly Devlin (#4) breaks the Panda press with prolific penetration Friday night in McKinnon Gym.

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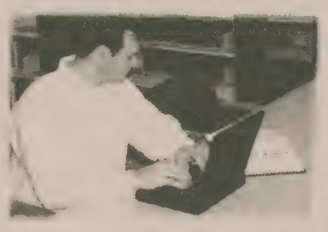

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NBA owner gives boost to student's charity

by Iain McLetchie

UVic student Simon Ibell has never let his size hold him back from achieving his goals and dreams, and thanks to a sizeable donation from Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban, Ibell's dreams are much closer to becoming reality.

Ibell, who was born with muchopoly-saccharidosis (MPS), started Bike4MPS in October as a way to fundraise and to raise awareness of the new technologies available for fighting the disease.

"MPS is a big umbrella with seven different areas," Ibell said, "I have MPS2, or hunter's syndrome, which affects my height, my hearing, causes stiffness in my joints and has enlarged my heart."

Cuban, the flamboyant Mavericks owner, always matches league fines with a charitable donation of his own. After being fined $500,00 US last week for criticising an official, Cuban donated a quarter of the matching fine (approx. $200,000 CN) to Bike4MPS; an amount that more than tripled Ibell's initial goal of $60,000 for the charity.

Ibell, who met Cuban through the friendship of good friend Steve Nash, a former classmate at Saint Michael's University School (SMUS), was astounded by Cuban's generosity.

"His generosity is unreal," Ibell stated. "We always knew he'd be involved in some way or another. He's a great guy and a good friend."

The "we" Ibell refers to is the group of people known as "Team MPS." Vikes soccer star Wanda Rozwadowska, Mark Kennedy and event planner Tami Tate form the driving force behing Bike4MPS, and help develop the charity's main goal: a bike tour of Vancouver Island.

The tour is scheduled to begin at the north coast town Port Hardy on June 25, and will end ten days later, July 5, in Victoria.

The ride so far consists of Ibell, Rozwadowska, Kennedy, Tate, and other friends, but "anyone can be involved, whether it's for one leg, half a leg, anything". Ibell is hoping Cuban will join the ride, even if only for a couple of stages.

The tour will stop in towns along the way, with one simple goal.

"We're hoping to stop at schools along the way to give our message and raise awareness of MPS," Ibell said.

"Just because you're a different size or shape shouldn't stop you because everyone is different. Don't let anything stop you."

Ibell is living proof of that creed.

Despite suffering from MPS and its side effects, which left him unable to play sports after Grade 9, he soon found the managerial side of sports kept him involved, particularly with the rugby and basketball teams at SMUS.

"Sports is my passion," he said. "I stopped playing at a certain age because of my size and medical condition. But I found my niche was being involved."

Ibell has stayed involved throughout university, spending four years working with the mens basketball team – two as a manager and the two as administrative assistant – followed by working this school year with the women's soccer team.

Ibell, who plans to eventually do a Masters in Sports Management and would like to work for a professional sports franchise, developed the idea for Bike4MPS with the help and approval of his family and friends.

"I've been reading the last couple of years [about MPS] and brought the idea to my family. They told me 'you can do anything if you put your mind to it'," Ibell said, "My family and Wanda were the catalysts behind the idea."

Ibell's family and friends have played an instrumental part in the early stages of the charity and still help to drive him and keep his goals alive.

"The support I've had from family and friends has been amazing," Ibell said. "I'm the person I am because of who they are; there's a piece of them in me."

As for Cuban, who has elicited many different responses from the basketball community and media for his high-spirited approach to the NBA, Ibell has nothing but the highest of praise.

"I may be a bit biased, but I think he's one of the greatest things to happen to sports," he said, "He's a great personality...a kid in a candy store."

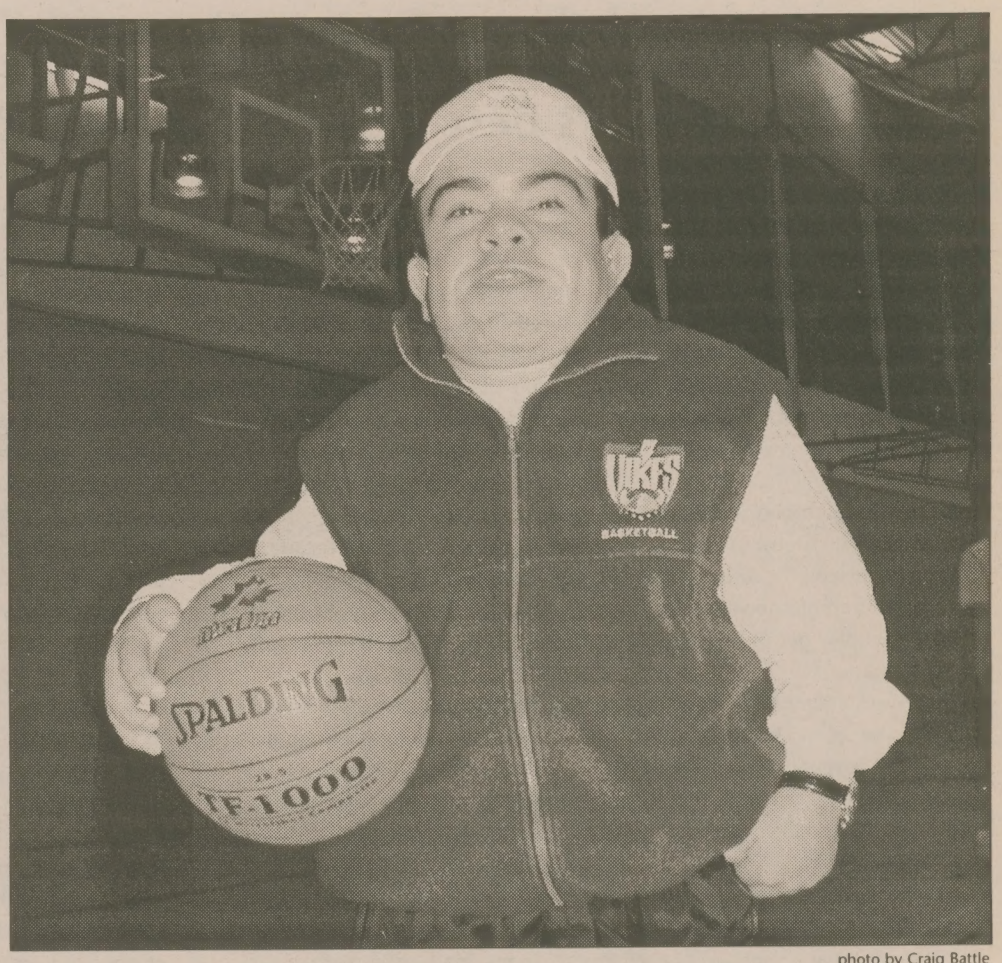


photo by Craig Battle

Simon Ibell, longtime participant and supporter of Vikes athletics and founder of Bike4MPS, stands tall in McKinnon Gym.

While Ibell hasn't had the chance to personally thank Cuban yet, he's planning to go down to Dallas in order to thank the effusive billionaire personally.

"He helped make my dream come true," said Ibell. "He know's what's important in life, especially when it comes to family and friends."

It's a dream with a small beginning, but it may have received the boost and exposure it needs to reach the top. That's something maybe only Ibell and his father once envisioned.

"My dad said to me, 'Terry Fox had to start somewhere,'" Ibell said. "That's a worldwide thing now. Who knows where this could go."

If you're interested in the Bike ride, or just want more info on Bike4MPS, check our www.Bike4MPS.org.

Bike4MPS will also hold a fundraiser at Sugar nightclub Friday, Jan.25. Doors open to the public at 10:00 pm and all proceeds will go to the charity.

This week in sports

HOME

BASKETBALL (M)
@ MCKINNON GYM
Jan. 18, 19 vs. UBC

BASKETBALL (W)
@ MCKINNON GYM
Jan. 18, 19 vs. UBC

FIELD HOCKEY (W)
@ IAN STEWART COMPLEX FIELD HOUSE
Jan. 19 Indoor Tournament

AWAY

FIELD HOCKEY (M)
@ HAWKS & INDIA
Jan. 18 Vancouver, BC

SWIMMING
@ CANADA WEST CHAMPIONSHIPS
Jan. 18 Alberta

CROSS COUNTRY
@ SEATTLE OPEN
Jan. 19 Seattle, WA

ROWING
@ BEAT THE BEAST
Jan. 19 Vancouver, BC

VALHALLA pure outfitters
THE JANUARY SALE
BEST VALUE FOR YOUR DOLLAR
up to 50% OFF
The FIRST sale of the year!
HOT DEALS worth coming down for!
While Stock Lasts!
sandals, gloves, clothing, shoes, bags and more...
VALHALLA PURE
615 Broughton St. • Downtown Victoria
www.valhalla-pure.com

VIKES Athletics
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
721-8406 www.uvic.ca/vikes
VIKES BASKETBALL WEEKEND
Friday Jan 18 — Women vs UBC 6:30 pm; Men vs UBC 8:15 pm
First 100 people to arrive on Friday's game get a free T-Bird Busters shirt.
The weekend is sponsored by TELUS
Saturday Jan 19 — Women vs UBC 6:30 pm; Men vs UBC 8:15 pm
Strathcona Hotel
Games at McKinnon Gym

(Even more) blowouts and battles of 2001

The Martlet's sports writers present part two of their recap of last year's best moments in UVic sports.

graphic by Joanna Wong

In the immortal words of Public Enemy frontman Chuck D, "Here we go again."

Last week in *the Martlet*, we members of the sports staff gave you the first half of the best and worst sporting moments of the past year.

"The highs, the lows," we said. "The wins and losses. All that."

We took you through moments in Vikes basketball, rugby, swimming, as well as recaps on UVic awards and comments on professional sports.

And that only got us through the spring semester.

This week – right here, right now – we have the second half of the 2002 sporting year, reported by *the Martlet* sports staff.

September 20

To kick off the new school year, Sports Editor Iain McLetchie recapped his experiences at a Vancouver beach volleyball tournament over the summer.

"I felt that entering a beach tournament would be a fantastic opportunity to meld all the components of my perfect summer day," McLetchie wrote. "Beach, ball and beautiful, uhhh, seascapes."

After going winless in pool play and finishing "dead last" in the process, McLetchie and partner Brett found their winning stroke on the consolation side of the draw.

"Suddenly we were gods!" McLetchie wrote. "After decimating the old and infirm (from a volleyball standpoint), we were crowned as consolation champions and given our share of the tourney loot."

McLetchie, of course, left with a new outlook on life.

"Life is just the same: every trial and tribulation we face makes us stronger and better able to cope with crises later on. Don't forget that as you carry on your day."

(Note: McLetchie is a bit of a softy from time to time.)

October 11

Martlet sports writer and outdoor enthusiast Julia Smith, in an opinion piece on rock climbing and proper gym behaviour, commented on the nature of climbing and the lack of need for manners.

"I know it's a good day of climbing when I am grunting, singing or swearing," Smith wrote. "People in the climbing gym don't understand this. They stop and stare when a young woman with pig tails starts shouting curses at the rock in a high-pitched voice."

Smith noted that anything goes while climbing a rockface outdoors.

"When I climb outside no one is fazed when the humming of 'Mission Impossible' is broken off by "Fucking cocksucker!"

November 1

In the final weekend of regular season play, both UVic soccer teams battled the Calgary Dinos for Canada West playoff spots.

However, once the dust had cleared only the men's team remained standing – the women's team, despite the best of effort, lost 3-0 and missed out on the playoffs.

"Unfortunately for the Vikes, effort does not count for anything," wrote sports writer Ruth Knoop. "The win for Calgary did not come easily and was the result of capitalizing on the few chances they received."

The men's team, however, held onto second place in the division and advanced easily with a 1-0 victory over the Dinos.

November 1 (again)

Vikes Volleyball returned to McKinnon Gym for only the second time in four years as UVic hosted crosstown rivals the Camosun College Chargers.

The program has not had regular season schedules since its demotion from Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) status in 1998.

"As a result," wrote Iain McLetchie, "home games have been few and far between with most matches coming through club tournaments in Vancouver and the USA."

The UVic men defeated the Chargers easily on both Friday and Saturday, while the women split the series. The matches saw large crowds on both nights, McLetchie reported.

"It's nice to have a home game with a large crowd," said power hitter Abe Avender. "It really felt like a real weekend of volleyball."

November 8

For only the second time in 14 years, the UVic women's field hockey team came up short of the national finals.

However, as sports editor Craig Battle reported, the Vikes didn't come up empty-handed. UVic, reigning champions from the previous year, returned from the nationals in Toronto with the bronze medal and several individual awards.

"I have to say I was as proud of them winning bronze as I have been winning gold," Beecroft said. "I can't say I was displeased at all."

After winning their first two games by a combined score of 11-1, UVic missed out on the opportunity for a repeat national championship as they failed to tally a goal against the Waterloo Warriors in the semifinals.

The squad beat the host Toronto Varisty Blues 2-0 in the consolation final to salvage the bronze medal.

"For the bronze medal game I was so proud," Beecroft said. "They came out like barn burners."

Andrea Rushton, already Canada West player of the year, was named a CIS tournament all star, a first team All-Canadian, as well as Liz Hoffman CIS national player of the year.

Rachel Peters (second team All-Canadian), Elise Roberts (first team All-Canadian) and Sara Simpson (tournament all star) also brought home awards.

November 11

For the fourth consecutive year the UVic women's cross country team brought back gold medals from the CIS national championships.

The women's Vikes took five of the top 20 places, while two Vikes – Liz Ramage and Larissa Managh – placed in the top 10 runners.

Both Ramage and Managh earned first-team all-Canadian awards, while Heather Goodfellow was named second team All-Canadian.

Coach Brent Fougner was honoured with the Coach of the Year award.

The men, on the other hand, placed fifth – a marked improvement from last year's 10th-place finish.

Jerry Ziak, already Canada West most valuable player and later named CIS season MVP, topped all 106 competitors with a time of 31:15.0 to take gold in the 10 kilometre race.

Ziak, who is enrolled in first-year social sciences, won the honours and beat the national field as a CIS rookie.

(Note: *the Martlet*, all high and mighty, forgot to cover the story as it occurred directly before reading break. Oops).

November 22

For *the Martlet's* first annual Gender Issue, Craig Battle recounted memories from childhood and commented on the apparent necessity of machismo in sports.

"Of course, I was macho from the get go," Battle wrote. "My parents had me lounging by the poolside, playing eye candy before I could string words into sentences."

"My first lesson, however, I stood and shivered and cried an hour of tears onto the concrete edge of the pool."

Battle went on, as he always does, to build himself up (calling himself "a big baby pinup"), and tear himself back down (citing the "tall, awkward show" he brought to skating lessons when he was nine).

"I was reluctant to tell friends or relatives about the lessons. Almost as reluctant as I was to smile the entire year I had braces," Battle wrote.

"No one knew about either, the skating lessons or the braces, until I emerged with better balance, stronger ankles and straighter teeth."

Battle concluded that his fear was due mainly to the simple, yet irrational, thought that skating was not "macho."

However, that doesn't mean he'd have rather not taken lessons.

"From time to time I imagined winning pairs gold at the Olympics. Other times I just skated along the boards with my head down and my arm swinging back and forth, and thought 'Man, I'm the fastest skater ever.' They were good times."

December 6

In the final issue of 2002, Iain McCletchie, in what has become a *Martlet* holiday tradition, wrote a wish list to Santa Claus himself in hopes that the great elf would exercise his powers over the world of sports.

"Now, Santa obviously can't carry around a huge sack of coal and an enormous pouch of goodies, so we had to deal in hypothetical terms," McLetchie wrote.

He proceeded to take aim and throw lumps of coal at such professional athletes as Patrick Roy, wishing that Roy would turn into either Mike Vernon or a sieve "For passing up a chance to play for Canada in the Olympics and making up some lame-ass reason for why he's doing so."

McCletchie, however, wasn't all about coal.

He also requested that Mario Lemieux would receive "a new hip, a new back and the vigour of a 22-year-old," that the Canucks would get a good goalie, and that Canada as whole would see the Great Gretzky "lace up the skates one more time and centre a line with Mario and some other lucky stiff in the Salt Lake Olympics."

VIPIRG

Refund Period

The Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG) is a student run non profit organization dedicated to research and action for social and environmental justice. Current & recent projects include lobbying for a low-cost dental clinic, organizing the Resisting Global Militarism conference, hosting the Amaranth food co-op, organizing various action projects, including Oil Slick action committee, RadioPIRG and our zine, *Re:Action*. Every UVIC undergrad is a member of VIPIRG and pays 3$ per full time semester in membership fees through their student fees. This fee is refundable by cheque to students during a refund period each semester.

The Spring 2002 semester refund period will be held **Jan 28, 2002 – Feb 8, 2002.** Refund forms can be picked up at the VIPIRG offices in SUB B120-122. Info: 472-4558.

BILLBOARDS

ON CAMPUS

Boy with two left feet seeks girl with two right. Meet me Sunday in the SUB at the Ballroom Dance Club.

Interested in volunteering at CFUV, your campus and community radio? If so, we will be conducting an orientation session on **Thurs. Jan. 24** at 7 p.m. Drop in at Rm. B006 of the SUB or phone 721-8702 to sign up – your destiny awaits...

Single male seeks others to join Ballroom Dance Club. See SUB for details on **Jan. 20.**

Islam Awareness Week (organized by the Muslim Students Association on campus), **Jan. 29 and 30.** Lectures will take place at different venues around campus with the main location in the SUB, between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. both days. Contact Akif Nazar at 477-5589.

Volunteers needed for Groovefest. Call the Women's Centre 721-8353.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Smoking cessation through hypnosis Next Victoria workshop: **Feb. 2.** Student price: $59 + GST 1-866-300-0025 Info: www.Walsh-Seminars.com

Victoria Shambhala Centre offers exciting meditation training opportunities. Meditation in everyday life, level 1: **Jan. 25-26,** $75. Shambhala meditation community workshop: **Feb. 4-7,** 7 p.m., $50. Recommended for all levels of experience or visit our open house Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at 2033 Belmont Ave. 383-9108. www.shambhala.org/centers/victoria

Stress management: discover sources and coping. Next Victoria workshop: **Feb. 9.** Student price: $59 + GST 1-866-300-0025. Info: www.Walsh-Seminars.com

VOLUNTEERS

Attention students in Education, Biology, Geography and Environmental Studies: Gain practical experience with relevant volunteer positions in Nature Education and Trail Design and Construction. Contact Joan at Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary for more details. Phone: 479 - 0211 or email: jcowley@swanlake.bc.ca

EMPLOYMENT

Summer camp staff wanted: child-care and rec staff. Camp for ADD/LD children in N.E. Pennsylvania. **June 22-Aug. 18** – many Canadian staff. Camp pays a stipend in US $, plus travel allowance, working visa, health ins. and room & board. Local interviews, call Bob at 385-5277 or email summit_bc@hotmail.com, or visit us at www.summitcamp.com

Summer camp counselors on-campus interviews for premier camps in Massachusetts! Positions available for talented, energetic, and fun-loving students as counselors in all team sports including roller hockey and lacrosse, all individual sports such as tennis and golf, waterfront and pool activities, and specialty activities including art, dance, theatre, gymnastics, newspaper, rocketry, and radio. Great salaries, room & board, travel, and US summer work visa. **June 18 to Aug. 17.** Enjoy a great summer that promises to be unforgettable. For more info and to apply: MAH-KEE-NAC – www.campmkn.com (boys): 1-800-753-9118; or DANBEE –www.danbee.com (girls): 1-800-392-3752. Interviewer will be on campus **Mon. March 4** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the SUB Rms. B025 and B028.

Young and ambitious? Ethical health-based company with global market is expanding rapidly. Former UVic student invites you to join our team PT/FT. See http://www.unitoday.net/circleofabundance or call 1-800-877-235-7836.

Escape minimum wage! Ease student debt! We are currently hiring e-mail processors to work at home, part and full-time. Earn up to $5000/month! No experience necessary. For more information send an email to: home-bizniz@excite.com

Travel – teach English: job guaranteed. Make great $$. 5 day/40hr (**Feb. 13-17** or online/correspondence) TESOL Teacher cert./license. Respected worldwide, government accredited. 1000s of jobs. FREE info pack 1-888-270-2941 www.canadianglobal.net FREE info session: **Jan. 22.**

FOR SALE

1988 Toyota Tercel. Only 140,000 km, excellent condition, 2-door hatchback. $2400 o.b.o. Call Darren at 380-0807.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Ski in/out accommodations on Mt. Washington. Sleeps six, comfortable and inexpensive. Call Ed at 217-1217 or Don at 704-9218.

Wanted: roommate to share brand new basement suite. Near Hillside Mall. N/s, n/p. $450/month incl. util. Available immediately, 595-6252. (Please note: the phone number that ran with this ad last week was incorrect)

TUTORS

Plain English specialist/published journalist available for writing, editing, and proofreading. 25 years experience. 595-5940 or woods@ampsc.com

ESL tutor. Experienced, friendly, flexible. For help with reading/writing, conversation, pronunciation, and cultural understanding. Please phone Lindsey at 381-8501.

Typing: reports – $1.50/pg., resumes – $10, letters – $2.00. Phone 920-0914.

HEY YOU

I saw you at Finnerty Express...meet me Sunday the 20th at the Ballroom Dance Club.

I believe our passing touches hint at something beneath the smile...

BILLBOARD RATES

students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/3 lines + $2/extra line
hey you!	$1/issue

SOAPBOX

New York, New York

by Katrina Sark

When you hear that name, what do you see?

When I think of New York I see Audrey Hepburn coming out of Tiffany's, Marilyn and Franky having martinis at El Morocco, Fitzgerald at a dinner party with a champagne glass in his hand, Gatsby looking across the bay for a glimpse of happiness, Liza and DeNiro walking along Fifth Avenue, Redford and Fonda taking a stroll through the park with their shoes in their hands, Meggie and Tom arguing about books on top of the Empire State Building, limousines arriving at a movie premiere.

I imagine Broadway ads for the upcoming shows, benches covered with yellow leaves in Central Park, too many cabs, too many bright lights, too many tourists. Coffee shops and expensive stores, hotels that have been immortalized and now resemble museums, and museums that have been modernized and look like hotels.

Now. Half of those people might have passed away, half are not even real, half the places might no longer exist, but the atmosphere is still there.

What happened to that image? Where did it go?

The whole picture has been blurred and stained and pushed so far back in my mind that I feel the strong need to write it down, give it shape of some kind, in order to keep that image alive.

In fact, the image has been blown to pieces and all I can think of now is what's the quickest way out of a burning building and the fastest way to escape a skyscraper. I definitely don't think about the god-damned benches.

It puzzles me how nobody has anything to say about that anymore – that is, it is all about the victims and terrorists, the symbols of American Power, and airport security. What about the rest? Has the city ceased to exist in any terms other than anger, revenge, security, and unfairness of the world?

I suddenly wonder if the men aboard those flights have ever read *The Great Gatsby*, or sung along to Frank or Tony "Start spreading the news...", or ever imagined what the view must have been like from the twin towers.

In the end it all comes down to cultural differences – we bomb their holy lands, and they ours. Who cares about a song at a time like this?

ON THE SPOT

Are you planning to attend the rally on Feb. 6? Why or why not?

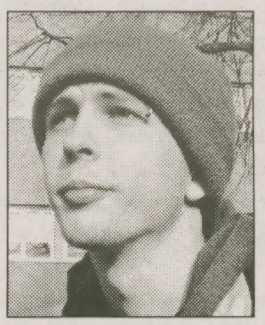
compiled by Sarah Glen and Suzanne Beaubien

Jeff Cockburn
4th year software engineering

I hadn't planned on it, but I'd definitely consider it because I don't want to pay more.

Heather Murray
2nd year social sciences

I want to, but I'm working. It's really important that students can support themselves... and that's why I'm working.



James
4th year writing & english

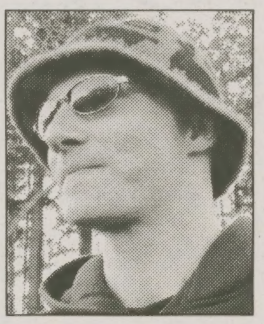
I hadn't made up my mind yet. I think freezing tuition is important because we've got the lowest tuition in Canada. It's an immediate concern.

Sheldon Etheridge
3rd year geography

Absolutely, because I feel that most students are on the threshold of not being able to afford tuition right now and I see the potential for free tuition.

Liane Wohlberg
4th year geography

Yeah, I'll go because I think that the Liberal government's current priorities aren't proper. Education, health care and social services should be the priorities.



James Thom
5th year earth and ocean sciences

What rally?

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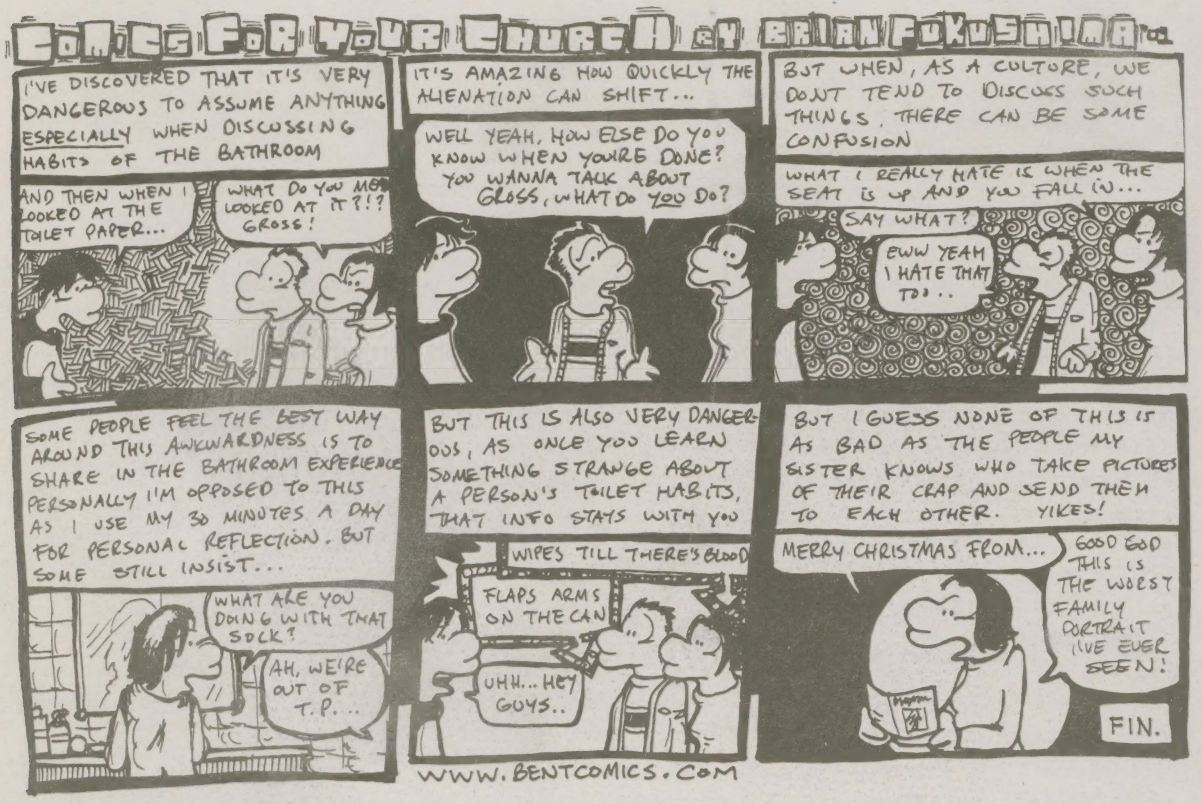
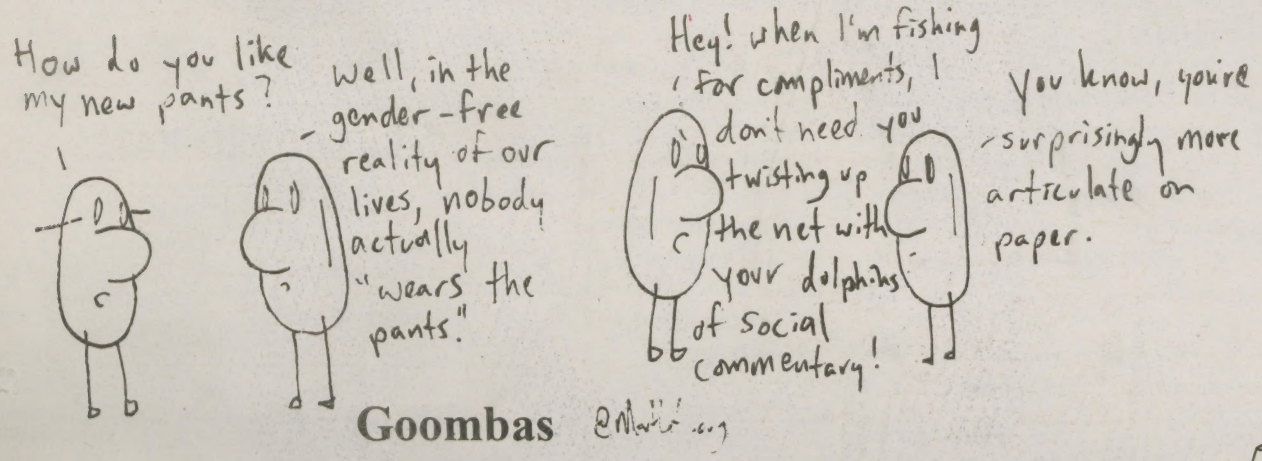
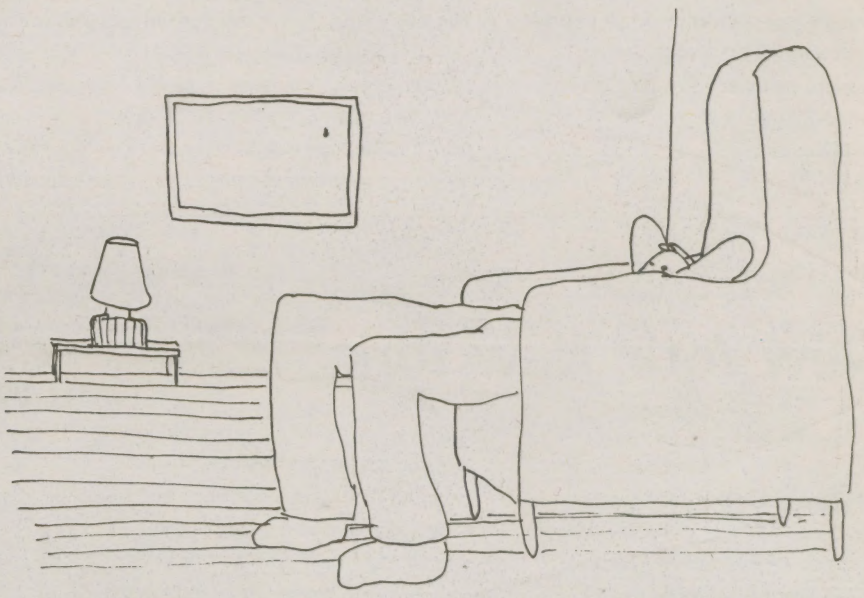
ENJOY POOL, PUTTING GREEN OR T.V. WHILE YOU WAIT


COMICS FOR YOUR CHURCH by BRIAN FOKUSHIMA
I'VE DISCOVERED THAT IT'S VERY DANGEROUS TO ASSUME ANYTHING ESPECIALLY WHEN DISCUSSING HABITS OF THE BATHROOM
AND THEN WHEN I LOOKED AT THE TOILET PAPER...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN LOOKED AT IT?!? GROSS!
SOME PEOPLE FEEL THE BEST WAY AROUND THIS AWKWARDNESS IS TO SHARE IN THE BATHROOM EXPERIENCE PERSONALLY I'M OPPOSED TO THIS AS I USE MY 30 MINUTES A DAY FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION. BUT SOME STILL INSIST...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THAT SOCK?
AH, WE'RE OUT OF T.P...
IT'S AMAZING HOW QUICKLY THE ALIENATION CAN SHIFT...
WELL YEAH, HOW ELSE DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU'RE DONE? YOU WANNA TALK ABOUT GROSS, WHAT DO YOU DO?
BUT THIS IS ALSO VERY DANGEROUS, AS ONCE YOU LEARN SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT A PERSON'S TOILET HABITS, THAT INFO STAYS WITH YOU
WIPES TILL THERE'S BLOOD
FLAPS ARMS ON THE CAN
UHH... HEY GUYS..
BUT WHEN, AS A CULTURE, WE DON'T TEND TO DISCUSS SUCH THINGS, THERE CAN BE SOME CONFUSION
WHAT I REALLY HATE IS WHEN THE SEAT IS UP AND YOU FALL IN...
SAY WHAT?
EWW YEAH I HATE THAT TOO..
BUT I GUESS NONE OF THIS IS AS BAD AS THE PEOPLE MY SISTER KNOWS WHO TAKE PICTURES OF THEIR CRAP AND SEND THEM TO EACH OTHER. YIKES!
MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM...
GOOD GOD THIS IS THE WORST FAMILY PORTRAIT I'VE EVER SEEN!
FIN.
WWW.BENTCOMICS.COM

SAM AND FUZZY
©2002 BY SAM LOGAN! esrever@eudoramail.com
CHECK IT OUT, FUZZY! I FOUND A STRAY CAT!
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! SO DID I!
THAT'S NOT A CAT, FUZZ, THAT'S A 2 BY 8.
YES, BUT I FOUND IT!
RIIIIGHT.. ANYWAYS, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS FOR A NAME?
WELL, I WAS THINKING MAYBE "WOODY", OR "PETE THE PLYWOOD"...
FOR THE CAT, FUZZY, FOR THE CAT!!!
FINE!!! LET'S DO EVERYTHING YOU WANNA DO!!!!
MEW!
SLURP

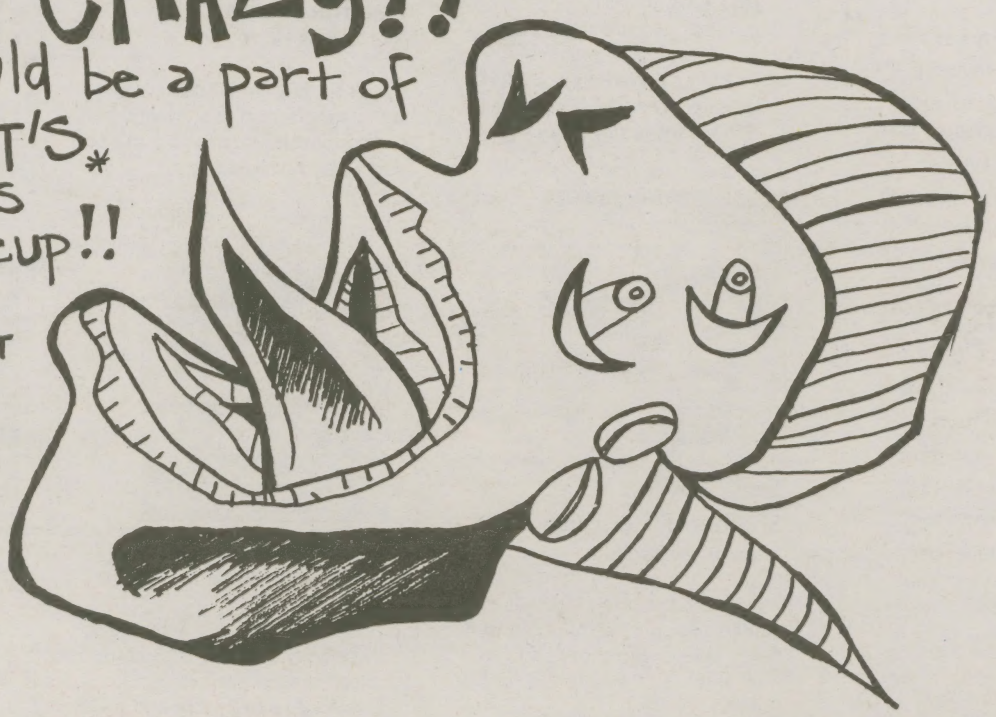

How do you like my new pants?
Well, in the gender-free reality of our lives, nobody actually "wears the pants."
Hey! when I'm fishing for compliments, I don't need you twisting up the net with your dolphins of social commentary!
You know, you're surprisingly more articulate on paper.
Goombas



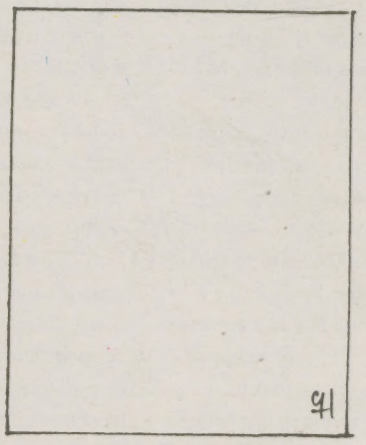
IN A DETERIORATED STATE OF MENTAL HEALTH GRAHAM SLIPS INTO THE T.V. SLOUCH, WATCHING RERUNS OF ALL IN THE FAMILY LATE INTO THE NIGHT.

hey! is your repressed creativity making you CRAZY?!
you too could be a part of *THE MARTLET'S* prestigious comics lineup!!

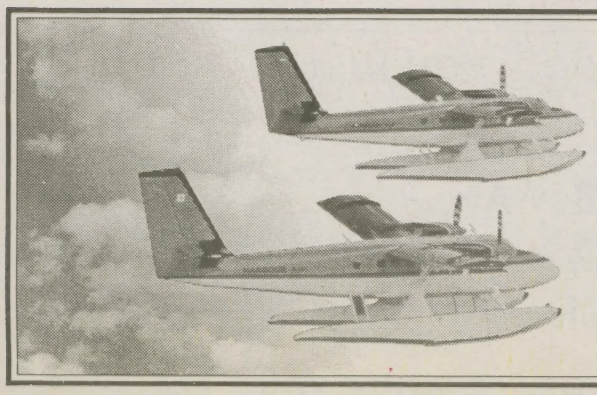
DROP SUBMISSIONS AT THE MARTLET OFFICE IN THE SUB BASEMENT B011



THE INOFFENSIVE COMIC



FOR EVERBODY'S ENJOYMENT!



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